



# SOUTH FOUR CORNERS

## Citizens Association



### November/December 2015 Newsletter

Next SFCCA Meeting: Monday, Nov. 16th - 7:00 p.m.  
at the Schweinhaut Senior Center, 1000 Forest Glen Road

#### President's Message

Dear Neighbors,

Following our recent Association Meeting, we had several community events scheduled. Two of the highlights, which occurred on September 26 were:

Sweep the Creek, a twice yearly cleaning of the creek event hosted by our September Speaker, Kit Gage and her organization Friends of Sligo Creek (FOSC). Future Sweep the Creek events can be found at [fosc.org](http://fosc.org). Our neighborhood falls into Section 6, between Colesville and Forest Glen Roads.

At the same time the Sweep was going on, Tamara Kucik, one of our advertisers, hosted a "Dumpster, Donate and Shred Day" at Argyle Park, where nearly 2000 pounds of paper was shredded! A Wider Circle (a local non-charity) received almost a full truck of household goods, and stated that this collection contained some of the highest quality donations they had ever received - including two new box springs. Learn more at [awidercircle.org](http://awidercircle.org).

Moving on, October has also been a busy month full of block parties, a Halloween parade, fall activities, and the end of daylight savings time.

We live in a vibrant, active community. According to an article, written on August 4, 2015, by Nick James of RoadSnacks ([search.roadsnacks.net](http://search.roadsnacks.net)), we live in the best place in Maryland. I encourage you to become more active in our (your) association. Volunteer for one of the committees. Attend the bi-monthly meetings. There is much to do, and with your involvement and commitment, we can continue to be the best place to live in Maryland.

Together, we can keep the momentum going, and continue to strengthen our community and maintain its character.

Marie Girardot  
President, SFCCA | [mlgirardot@aol.com](mailto:mlgirardot@aol.com)



#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**November 9, 2015**—Montgomery County Civic Federation (MCCF) Monthly Meeting 7:45 p.m., County Council Building 1st Floor Auditorium. **Speaker:** *Maryland's Comptroller Peter Franchot*. The State's chief fiscal officer will discuss Maryland's economy and fiscal climate. This meeting is open to the public.

**November 16, 2015**—7p.m.—SFCCA Community Meeting, Schweinhaut Senior Center, 1000 Forest Glen Road (**NOTE new date on third Monday!**)

**December 5, 2015**—5p.m.—Annual Tree Lighting, Corner of Lanark Way & Rogart Road

**January 18, 2017**—7p.m.—SFCCA Community Meeting, Schweinhaut Senior Center, 1000 Forest Glen Road (**NOTE new date on third Monday!**)

## Halloween Parade Scares up Some Good Old-Fashioned Fun!

Betty Batty



The Halloween Parade was another great success!

Over 200 people and some great costumes - a few scary characters, lots of ninja's, family of giraffes, inmates and so much more.

After our parade route we enjoyed sweet treats donated by neighbors and got a chance to catch up with friends while the kids played at the playground.

A great event you never want to miss!



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## Montgomery County, Maryland is the First County in the Nation to Restrict Lawn Pesticides

According to a press release from the Montgomery County Council on October 6, 2015, the Montgomery County Council approved amended Bill 52-14 that bans the use of pesticides on County-owned and private lawns, becoming one of the few jurisdictions in the nation to have such restrictions. One of the amendments to the original bill will allow the County's Department of Parks to continue to use pesticides on playing fields as part of an integrated pest management program and requires the department to develop a plan that would lead to maintaining fields without pesticide use by 2020. The department will conduct a pilot program in the interim period to study the impact of maintaining fields without using pesticides.



"Today's action is another step in the ongoing effort to make Montgomery County the healthiest, safest county in the country," said Council President Leventhal. "Countless studies have linked pesticides to a wide range of health conditions in children and adults and, since the bill was introduced one year ago, I have received hundreds of reports from constituents of children and pets experiencing adverse effects from the application of pesticides," he continued.

This legislation stops the use of toxic lawn pesticides (insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, etc.) for purely cosmetic purposes on all property, county-wide. Many councilmembers agreed that public health should not come at the cost of using non-essential pesticides to maintain lawns, especially when safer alternatives exist.



**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
SAY NO TO  
PESTICIDES**

More details about Bill 52-14 and related amendments are available at: <http://tinyurl.com/q56xdsr> and [http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/news/pr/pr\\_details.html](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council/news/pr/pr_details.html)

### Important Phone Numbers

Montgomery County General Information & Service Request, Call 311 | Outside of Montgomery County, call [240-777-0311](tel:240-777-0311) | The TTY (for the hearing impaired) number is [240-773-3556](tel:240-773-3556).

Police & Fire Emergency, 911 | Fire Non-Emergency, [\(240\) 773-4700](tel:240-773-4700) | Police Non-Emergency, [301-279-8000](tel:301-279-8000) | 24-Hour Emergency Preparedness Hotline, [240-777-4200](tel:240-777-4200)

Electric power outages or downed wires, [877-737-2662](tel:877-737-2662)) <http://www.pepco.com/outage-center/>

## Highlights from the September 21, 2015 SFCCA Meeting

Marie Girardot opened the meeting asking those present to introduce themselves. There were 25 residents that made it to the meeting on a very stormy night.

Some are new to the neighborhood, one has been a resident since 1955!

Erin Caporellie is the new Chairperson of the Social Committee. She reminded us that the neighborhood Halloween Parade will take place on October 25, 2015 at 4:00 pm.

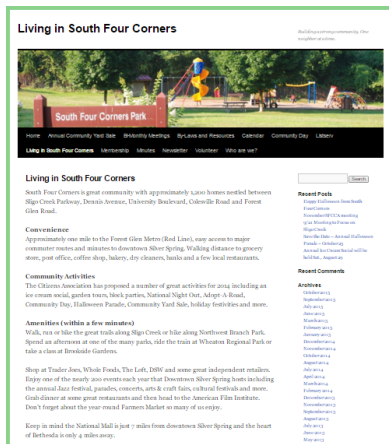


The parade will leave a few minutes after 4 p.m. from the South Four Corners Park (Dallas and Forest Glen) walk up Portland make a right at Lanark Way and back down Dallas Ave. After the parade we'll return to the park and enjoy some sweet treats. We had such a great turn out last year. We hope to see lots of ghosts, pirates, princesses, witches and goblins.

Eileen Broderick, Membership Chairperson, updated us on the membership dues. Membership dues are \$15.00 per household per year, from January to December. She mentioned that the membership dues pay for the newsletter, meeting venue, social events, and various civic association memberships.

There are 69 active members at present. Eileen mentioned that there were over 200 neighbors that showed up for the very successful Ice Cream Social held on August 29.

Marie Girardot mentioned that there is advertising space available in the newsletter. Please contact Ben Gross at [SFCCAEditor@gmail.com](mailto:SFCCAEditor@gmail.com).



Marie Girardot mentioned that in addition to the newsletter to keep the neighborhood informed, we have an active listserv through yahoo groups; a complete website at [www.southfourcorners.com](http://www.southfourcorners.com); and you can find us on Facebook at South Four Corners Silver Spring.





## Highlights from the September 21, 2015 SFCCA Meeting (cont.)

Larry Dickter, introduced our guest speaker, Kit Gage, President of the Friends of Sligo Creek. Ms. Gage, a notable horticulturalist and expert on storm water management discussed the activities of FOSC and updated us on issues such as the recent stream bed and sewer line restoration in Sligo Creek near Colesville Rd and the new meadow and wetland project underway between the Beltway and the soccer fields in Sligo Creek Park.



The \$1 billion dollar project, a result of WSSC being sued by various entities because the sewage pipes were leaking raw sewage into the creek, is in full swing and is now more than 50% complete. The project is extremely enormous and complicated.



For example, every single tree that is cut down must be permitted and recorded and replaced with the same type of tree. The purpose of the project is to limit sewage spills into Sligo Creek, and to improve the water quality.

She talked about ways people can design projects to help with the problem of water runoff into our creek. An example was given of a project in Sligo Park Hills. When it rains in Sligo Park Hills, the water races downhill and becomes an instant raging river. There were 80 different runoff control projects that were grouped together to resolve and prevent the runoff issues.

Individuals can also impact water run off. By changing downspouts that collect water off the roof from spilling into the streets to diverting the runoff into your yard, homeowners can change how rain runs downstream, thereby reducing how much of the street grit and grime gets carried to our creeks and rivers.

Kit Gage also reminded us that there is a Sweep the Creek project this weekend. Ms. Gage also enlightened us on the Weed Warrior Training, where volunteers are trained to I.D. non-native invasive plants and the natives that should be there!

For more information on Friends of Sligo Creek, and their various projects to improve our waterways, please visit their web site at <http://www.fosc.org>.

After thanking Kit Gage for sharing her expertise, Marie Girardot reminded the Association that the next meeting is November 16, 2015. Our speaker will be Officer Joy Patil, from the Montgomery County Police Department.

The meeting was adjourned shortly after 8:30 pm





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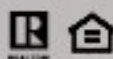
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## Editor's Corner

**Ben Gross**

Just a reminder that this is *your* newsletter!

I want to make sure that you continue to find it a valuable resource and welcome your participation. Feel free to submit stories (or story ideas) you think would be of interest to the community. You can send in photos of block parties, interesting neighborhood events or really anything that speaks to the South Four Corners Community spirit!

Feel free to reach out to me anytime at: [SFCCAEditor@gmail.com](mailto:SFCCAEditor@gmail.com).

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