



SOUTH FOUR CORNERS

Citizens Association



May/June 2015 Newsletter

**Next SFCCA Meeting: Monday, May 18th - 7:00 p.m.
at the Schweinhaut Senior Center, 1000 Forest Glen Road**

May 18 Meeting to Include Siena School Update, SFCCA elections

Clay Kaufman, Head of the Siena School on Forest Glen Road, will answer any questions about the school's plans to adjust its official hours. The school has quite a number of families who, for religious reasons, cannot participate in any activities on Friday evenings or before sundown Saturday. Therefore, the school hopes to adjust its official weekend hours (Saturday, 8 am - 5 pm) to allow it to hold some school events on Sundays or Saturday evenings. There should be no effect on parking, as the school would continue to get a permit to park all overflow vehicles at Argyle Park/Senior Center.



The annual election of officers will be held at the SFCCA meeting on May 18. Any member with interest in running can talk with one of the current officers, who are listed on the last page of the newsletter.

Although nominations "may be made from the floor and nominations may not be closed until the members are ready to ballot" (By-Laws Article 6, Section 2), I have also appointed a Nominating Committee to assist in identifying willing candidates.

Please come to the meeting to take part in the election process, and consider stepping up to serve your neighbors and the Association as an officer.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

May 18, 2015—7pm—SFCCA Community Meeting, Schweinhaut Senior Center, 1000 Forest Glen Road (NOTE new date on third Monday!)

May 23, 2015—10 a.m.—Clean-up of Forest Glen Rd (meet at Argyle Park tennis courts)

July 20, 2015—7pm—SFCCA Community Meeting, Schweinhaut Senior Center, 1000 Forest Glen Road (NOTE new date on third Monday!)

July 25, 2015—10 a.m.—Clean-up of Forest Glen Rd (meet at Argyle Park tennis courts)



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Have you heard of Little Free Library?

They're popping up everywhere and we have a few right here in South Four Corners. The mission is to cultivate community and promote literacy. What a brilliant idea!

The concept is kind of like the "Need a penny, Take a penny" jar next to the cash register at your local gas station, but with BOOKS! Essentially, Little Free Library is a community book exchange. It starts with a neighbor installing a library box in their yard, stocking it with books and maintaining the inventory and box. These books can be favorite childhood books, books we'd recommend to friends, books for children and books for adults. The library belongs to the community. Little Free Library's motto is "take a book, return a book." If you see something in the library that you'd like to read, take it. When you're done with the book, return it to any Little Free Library or pass it on to a friend. If you have a few books you no longer need or would like to share, you can donate them to your community Little Free Library. The mission of Little Free Library is to "promote literacy and the love of reading by building free book exchanges worldwide" and to "build a sense of community as we share skills, creativity and wisdom across generations."

If you are interested in starting your own Little Free Library check out: <http://littlefreelibrary.org/>
<http://bookriot.com/2014/03/24/5-tips-running-little-free-library/>
<https://www.pinterest.com/battyrealestate/little-free-library/>

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Highlights from the March 16, 2015 SFCCA Meeting

Provided by Pat Wills and John Holden

John Holden opened the meeting with a few announcements, including items from the SFCCA calendar. Election of SFCCA Officers will take place at the May meeting.

While Washington Gas had initially planned to replace gas line mains and service lines in all parts of South Four Corners, some homes are no longer within the scope of the project. Washington Gas has completed work on the streets experiencing leaks (e.g., Brunett, Lanark, Grayson, Dallas); the remainder of the work on Gilmore, Greenock, Harding, Kinross, Rogart and Markham will be completed "down the road a bit." Washington Gas paving contractors will be returning to the neighborhood this spring/summer to replace the temporary road patches installed for the winter; this will also include sidewalk repairs. Contact persons continue to be Kelly Caplan (202-624-6335; kelly.caplan@washgas.com) and Jason Rich (703-408-2086; JRich@washgas.com).

The Siena School continues to grow in enrollment, and Clay Kaufman will likely speak at the next meeting about plans to build a new wing, and about adjusting Siena School's official hours to allow some school events on Sundays and on Saturday evenings after sundown.

John thanked **Betty Batty** for her work in arranging for the meeting's guest speaker, **Mae Novak**. Mae is the past Vice-President and current Volunteer Coordinator for Silver Spring Village, a non-profit organization that offers services and programs for older adults who wish to "age in place." More information about volunteering, or becoming an associate member, can be found at www.silverspringvillage.org.

Each person attending the meeting introduced him/herself with their name, the street on which they live, and how long they have lived in the neighborhood. Betty provided information and answered questions about the community yard sale to be held on April 25.

Karen Michels reported on a February 28 kick-off event for members of the five Corridor Advisory Committees (CACs) providing input about the proposed Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). Karen was nominated and selected to represent SFCCA on the CAC for the corridor segment on US 29 south of New Hampshire Avenue. For more information, go to <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/RTS/>.

John mentioned that he and **Larry Dickter** were among those who testified on Friday night, January 30, at a hearing in Rockville held by the Montgomery County delegation to the Maryland General Assembly. The hearing was about a proposal -- submitted by the County Executive weeks after the deadline -- to allow creation of an Independent Transit Authority (ITA) for Montgomery County. Among other things, this ITA would be able to independently establish a countywide tax (not subject to County Charter limits), to incur new debt (including issuing revenue bonds), and to exercise eminent domain (power to take private property for public use). The proposal was subsequently withdrawn, to be revised and submitted again later. Larry also reported on the January 28 forum organized by the Greater Four Corners Alliance regarding the development of White Oak and the Route 29 corridor to Cherry Hill Road.

An updated version of the 2015 SFCCA Budget printed in the Jan/Feb 2015 newsletter was approved unanimously. Revisions included addition of a \$185 expense for 100 canvas SFCCA "welcome bags" (a savings from 2014), and removal of the \$300 line item for "Newsletter Expenses" (payment to the newsletter editor) that was discussed at the January meeting. A new motion to pay \$100 to the newsletter editor was discussed and defeated, based on the volunteer nature of the Association, and on a report by **Ben Bishop** that **Ben Gross** (current editor) has indicated he is happy to continue indefinitely and does not want any payment.



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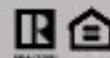


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Richard Messalle, Treasurer

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Eileen Broderick, Membership
Ben Gross, Newsletter Editor

Marie Girardot, Neighborhood Safety
Dave Nettleton, Newsletter Distribution

SFCCAEitor@gmail.com

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SFCCA Yahoo Group and Listserv | <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SFCCAMembers>

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*TESTING AND EVALUATION *VETERANS ISSUES
*AGING & LIFE TRANSITIONS

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