



# **SOUTH FOUR CORNERS**

## Citizens Association



### **July/August 2016 Newsletter**

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

### **July 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting to Feature Guest Speaker from Office of Consumer Protection**

Please join us at SFCCA's next meeting, Monday, July 18, when our guest speaker will be Eric Friedman, director of Montgomery County's Office of Consumer Protection (OCP). Mr. Friedman will provide information regarding the latest deceptive trade practices in the marketplace, and current scams specifically targeting homeowners.



Based upon OCP's experience investigating complaints and working with the police, Mr. Friedman will provide tips on how to avoid being victimized by out-of-state, unlicensed home improvement contractors and tree cutters. Known as "woodchucks," these criminals drive into Montgomery County each day searching for homeowners who will pay thousands of dollars for unneeded work, shoddy work, or no work at all. OCP handles complaints regarding most all consumer transactions, including auto sales and repairs, retail sales, advertising, home services, and more.

Mr. Friedman has worked in Montgomery County's consumer protection office for the past 36 years. He currently directs an office with a dedicated staff of 16 people and a \$2 million budget focusing resources on consumer scams directed at minority groups, senior citizens, and vulnerable consumers.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

**July 18, 2016** - 7 p.m., SFCCA Community Meeting, Schweinhaut Senior Center, 1000 Forest Glen Rd

**July 20, 2016** - 7 p.m., Thunderbolts Baseball, SFC Night at Blair H.S. - **SEE BACK PAGE FOR DETAILS!**

**July 23, 2016** - 10 a.m., Clean-up of Forest Glen Rd (meet at Argyle Park tennis courts)

**August 2, 2016** - 7-8 p.m., National Night Out, South Four Corners Park

**Sept 19, 2016** - 7 p.m., SFCCA Community Meeting, Schweinhaut Senior Center, 1000 Forest Glen Rd

**Sept 24, 2016** - 10 a.m., Clean-up of Forest Glen Rd (meet at Argyle Park tennis courts)

## President's Corner *by Carolyn Stanek Lucy*

### A Community of Service

Dear South Four Corners neighbors and friends,

Thank you for electing me as president of SFCCA. I am grateful for the opportunity to represent our community through this important role.

I want to acknowledge the huge contributions so many people are making behind-the scenes that benefit our community. We have folks paying attention to a wealth of issues, from zoning to transportation to safety. We have others committed to creating social opportunities and fun connections throughout the year. **Everyone's contribution is unique, appreciated, and needed.**

I'm learning a good deal about community these days, and it seems to me that many people – myself included – are longing for more of it. As we get more deeply involved in virtual realities like social media, our real-time, real-life connections can seem to diminish. After all, we only have so much time. Right?

Lately, however, I've come to believe that building community is all about personal choice. We all get to choose how we spend our time. This year, I'm choosing to use some of my time cultivating a community of service here in our neighborhood. Personally, I want to live in a community of people who are kind to each other, know their neighbors, and act on behalf of the common good.

I encourage you to think about what you would like to see, have, do in our neighborhood and then **get into action**. I welcome your unique contribution to enhance what's already here, create what's missing, and appreciate all we're doing together for our neighborhood.

I'm committed to being of service to our community. I ask you to join me – and all the others actively involved in our community – to do your part to make our corner of the world a better place, filled with more connection, and more activity.

Together, we can create a world of good – one neighbor at a time!

Carolyn Stanek Lucy, SFCCA President

### Officers of the South Four Corners Citizens Association

Carolyn Stanek Lucy, President  
Marie Girardot, Recording Secretary

Larry Dickter, Vice President  
Richard Messalle, Treasurer

### South Four Corners Citizens Association Chairpersons

Eileen Broderick, Membership  
John Holden, Newsletter Editor (interim)  
with thanks also to Mary Beaudoin  
Dave West, Listserv Manager

Nick Nguyen, Neighborhood Safety  
Dave Nettleton, Newsletter Distribution  
Michelle Kretkowski, Website/Social Media  
Dave Meininger, Welcome Bags

**Box 792, Silver Spring, MD 20918-0792** / [www.SouthFourCorners.com](http://www.SouthFourCorners.com)

[SFCCAEditor@gmail.com](mailto:SFCCAEditor@gmail.com)

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

Facebook / <https://www.facebook.com/pages/South-Four-Corners-Silver-Spring/129740147057223>

## Let's Do This!

We all know South Four Corners is a great place to live, play, and work. But did you know it's a great place to volunteer, too? We have a great group of people committed to making SFC a vibrant, healthy, and welcoming place. Join us in making it even better. Your contribution truly matters. Please consider taking on one of these roles today!

- Newsletter Editor
- Social Events Coordinator
- Newsletter Distributors
- Safeway Liaison

Together, we can continue to make SFC great!



### Newsletter Editor

We have an opening for a new newsletter editor to manage the SFCCA newsletter process. The newsletter editor solicits / receives content and advertising, as well as manages the printing process for the bi-monthly newsletter. Using Microsoft Office's Publisher, and one's own creativity, the newsletter editor works with the SFCCA officers and other community leaders to keep SFC residents up-to-date on neighborhood news. This is a great way to give back to your community from the comfort of your own home!

Many thanks to Ben Gross for his work as newsletter editor over more than four years. Ben is available to speak with anyone about the responsibilities of the newsletter editor. If you're interested in taking on this important role, please email Ben at [SFCCAEditor@gmail.com](mailto:SFCCAEditor@gmail.com).

### Social Events Coordinator

We have an opening for a new social events coordinator to cultivate a group of volunteers to plan and oversee the community's annual social events. In the past, these events have included an ice cream social, community yard sale, Halloween parade, and holiday tree lighting. Social events can be as simple or as elaborate as you like – it's up to you!

Many thanks to Erin Caporellie for her work as social events coordinator during the past year. Erin is available to speak with anyone about the responsibilities of the social coordinator. If you're interested in taking on this important role, please email Erin at [sfcca.social@gmail.com](mailto:sfcca.social@gmail.com).

### Newsletter Distributors

We have several openings for newsletter distributors to deliver the newsletter – six times per year – to individual homes in our community. If you're interested in taking on this important role, please email Dave at [joriandave@aol.com](mailto:joriandave@aol.com).

### Safeway Liaison

We have an opening for a new Safeway liaison to stay connected to the Safeway at University Blvd and to report any new information at SFCCA meetings, through the newsletter, and on the listserv. If you're interested in taking on this important role, please email Carolyn at [sfcca.president@gmail.com](mailto:sfcca.president@gmail.com).

## Neighborhood Public Works

Join our team as we work to keep our streets safe throughout SFC! Keep an eye on our shared infrastructure, including pedestrian crossings, sidewalks, curbs, potholes, storm drains, ponding water, street trees, and grass cutting. Please report anything of concern to the Montgomery County Government by calling 311. If you're willing, please also send a summary of the issue and 311 tracking number to Michael Lucy at [SFCCA.PublicWorks@gmail.com](mailto:SFCCA.PublicWorks@gmail.com).



## Learn more about Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)

In December 2014, then-SFCCA President John Holden nominated Karen Michels to represent SFCCA on a BRT Corridor Advisory Committee (CAC) for US 29 South (New Hampshire Ave to the Silver Spring Transit Center). To get public input on the BRT planning process, the CAC held 5 meetings and an 'Open House' from Feb 2015 to Feb 2016. Its work was cut short, however, when earlier this year County Executive Leggett announced that he plans to push ahead with an 11-mile BRT corridor within 4 years. See page 4 of the May/June issue of this newsletter for more info, and come to our SFCCA meetings to follow this important issue that will impact SFC.

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## Highlights from the May 16, 2016 SFCCA Meeting

The SFCCA meeting began at 7:02 pm. Marie Girardot began the meeting by asking for a volunteer to take the meeting minutes. Suran de Silva volunteered.

Marie then introduced the first speaker, Ben Doggett, who is a high school senior and an Eagle Scout candidate. He is doing a community service project to erect a sign commemorating the Polychrome Historic District located in South Four Corners. The historic marker, costing approximately \$1,000, will be made from cast aluminum and erected on Sutherland Road in front of one of the Polychrome houses. Ben has hosted yard sales to raise funds for the project, earning \$90 to date. Ben asked SFCCA for \$315 to pay for the construction permit needed to erect the sign. Larry Dickter motioned to provide Ben with the permit money as presented; Jim Janssen seconded. All voted in favor, and the motion passed unanimously. [June update: Ben reported that since the Boy Scouts of America is a non-profit, the \$315 permit fee was waived, so he will be returning the funds provided by SFCCA. Also, using gofundme.com Ben was able to raise enough money to pay for the entirety of his project. We hope to have a further report in the next SFCCA newsletter.]

Larry introduced David Rotenstein to talk about the history of Four Corners. David has written articles for the past two newsletters and has spoken at other community meetings. David provided an informative, in-depth talk about the history of our neighborhood. Beginning with the time the area was settled, David highlighted notable events, historic building construction, prominent residents, and covenants originally intended to exclude people of color from the neighborhood. For more information, visit David's blog at <http://blog.historian4hire.net/tag/four-corners>.

After David's presentation, Marie asked guests to introduce themselves. Marie then asked Erin Caporellie to discuss planning for Community Day, scheduled for Sunday, October 2. Erin needs additional volunteers to support this effort. If you would like to help with Community Day, please contact Erin by email at [sfcca.social@gmail.com](mailto:sfcca.social@gmail.com).

Next, annual elections were held for the SFCCA Officers. The following community members were nominated and elected:

Secretary – Marie Girardot  
Treasurer – Dick Messalle  
Vice President – Larry Dickter  
President – Carolyn Stanek Lucy

During the new business portion of the meeting, Tom Doggett shared his idea for a South Four Corners house tour. The house tour could be similar to the garden tours Jeanne Berman coordinated in the past. Tom will research the idea and present his findings at a future SFCCA meeting.

SFCCA is currently seeking support for two important roles: 1) Newsletter Editor; and 2) Social Committee Chair. We are grateful for the work done by Ben Gross, former Newsletter Editor, and Erin Caporellie, former Social Committee Chair. If you are interested in taking on either of these roles, please contact Carolyn Stanek Lucy by email at [sfcca.president@gmail.com](mailto:sfcca.president@gmail.com).

At the end of the meeting, Carolyn Stanek Lucy -- SFCCA's just-elected new president -- spoke briefly about her hopes to grow the association and engage additional collaborators. We need everyone's help to make this the community all that we envision.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 pm.

*SFCCA extends appreciation to Suran de Silva for taking excellent notes during the May meeting.*



## 37th annual National Night Out on August 2

Join your neighbors from 7 to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, August 2, to celebrate the 37th annual National Night Out event at South Four Corners Park on Forest Glen Road.

Stop by to say hi to some of our county police officers and fire-fighters.

National Night Out is an annual event designed to promote neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships across the nation. To learn more, go to <https://natw.org>.

Refreshments will be provided. We look forward to seeing you there!

*Logo from "National Association of Town Watch"*



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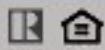


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## SFCCA Baseball Night: Wednesday, July 20, 7:00 p.m. Silver Spring - Takoma Thunderbolts at Blair

It's South Four Corners Night at Blair Baseball Stadium as the Silver Spring/Takoma Park Thunderbolts take on the Bethesda Big Train at 7 pm, Wednesday, July 20.

Join your neighbors and fellow association members for a night of baseball fun - the first 50 neighbors who say they are with the SFCCA get in FREE!

Don't miss the National Anthem and the first pitch being thrown out by one of the SFCCA officers. And if you miss dinner at home, there are hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, beverages and ice cream at the concession stand!!!

"So, come root, root, root for the home team!! If they don't win, it's a shame! 'Cuz it's one, two, three strikes you're out, at the old ball game!!"



The Thunderbolts are a wooden bat, collegiate summer baseball team in the Cal Ripken Sr. Collegiate League. Their 2016 season runs through July 30.

Usual admission is \$5 for adults and \$2 for children under 18. Youth baseball and softball players in uniform, as well as children under the age of 5 years, are FREE.

### 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/>