



SOUTH FOUR CORNERS

Citizens Association



July/August 2012 Newsletter

**Next SFCCA Meeting: Monday, July 9th - 7:00 p.m.
at the Schweinhaut Senior Center, 1000 Forest Glen Road**

July Meeting—Our Roads, Our Community and Our Neighbors

The guest speaker for our July 9th meeting is Mr. Randall Paugh, chief, pavement management section, Montgomery County Department of Transportation. Mr. Paugh will provide a brief overview of our planned roadway repairs and answer everyone's questions and concerns about the condition of neighborhood and other local streets.

Additionally, David Meininger will share some of the highlights of the recent, first-ever South Four Corners Citizens Association household survey.



Sweet & Greet—Ice Cream Social

Betty Batty



The second annual Ice Cream Social was a sweet time. More than 150 neighbors joined the citizens association for ice cream at South Four Corners Park on May 20. We met some new neighbors, caught up with friends we haven't seen in a while and everyone enjoyed a delicious ice cream cone. Hope to see even more of you out there next year!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

July 9, 2012, 7 p.m.: SFCCA Meeting, Schweinhaut Senior Center, 1000 Forest Glen Road.

July 14, 2012, 10 a.m.—Clean-up of Forest Glen Rd (meet at Argyle Park tennis courts).

August 7, 2012, 7 p.m.—National Night Out at South Four Corners Park

Editor's Corner

Ben Gross

While we all do our best to keep our own patch of South Four Corners looking good by maintaining our homes and yards, there are some Montgomery County Laws regarding parking and paving of which some homeowners may not be aware of. Parking heavy commercial vehicles (>10,000 lbs), any vehicle in a non-paved front yard and Inoperable/unregistered vehicles are all prohibited by Montgomery County law.



Help keep South Four Corners beautiful—remind your neighbor of these laws if you believe they are in violation, or contact 311.

As always, you can reach me at SFCCAEitor@gmail.com.

Does the market have you Batty? Call Betty!

Just Sold

*10003 Rogart Rd. - under contract in 3 days (sellers agent)
23 Melbourne Ave. - under contract in 8 days (sellers agent)
9114 Providence Ave. - multiple offers in 3 days (sellers agent)
709 Franklin Ave. - multiples before it hit the market (sellers agent)
7913 Brethren Dr. (sellers agent)
1923 Blackbriar St. (buyers agent)
1113 Chiswell Ln. (buyers agent)
7315 Brookview Rd. #403 (buyers agent)
5609 Glenwood Rd. (buyers agent)
1023 Forest Glen Rd. (buyers agent)*

Under Contract

*10902 Pebble Run Dr. - multiple offers (sellers agent)
2316 Parallel Ln. (sellers agent)
10112 Greenock Rd. (sellers agent)
5424 Alta Vista Rd. (buyers agent)*



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Officers of the South Four Corners Citizens Association

David Meininger, President

Glen Richardson, Vice President

Need A Volunteer, Recording Secretary

Richard Messalle, Treasurer

South Four Corners Citizens Association Chairpersons

Eileen Broderick, Membership

Marie Girardot, Neighborhood Watch

Ben Gross, Newsletter Editor

Dave Nettleton, Newsletter Distribution
Coordinator

Child Care Center Update

Glen Richardson

On the morning of May 30, the Board of Appeals heard oral arguments regarding the special exception for child day care. Three witnesses presented oral arguments and answered the Board's questions. The witnesses were our attorney Louis Leibowitz, Harriet Quinn representing Woodmoor-Pinecrest and the applicant's attorney. The session lasted three hours.

Only three of the five Board members were present that day so no vote was held. County rules require the two missing members to read the transcript, then vote at another public hearing. At this time, the vote has not been scheduled. When a date is set, we will announce it on the SFCCA List Serv.

National Night Out

Marty Maher

On August 7, SFCCA will host National Night Out. The activities will be from 7:00 - 8:00 pm at the South Four Corners Park. For the children, there will be police cars from both Montgomery County and the MNC Park Police. Adults will have the opportunity to meet the officers and discuss neighborhood issues.



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The Gardening Guru: Jeanne Berman

(Disclaimer: I do not know all things, but I will try to get you the best information possible. I do know more than my husband.)

We have been very lucky to have our neighbors join in the fun and let us into their gardens for some great learning experiences. We have met a neighbor who has an orchard in her front yard! Eight fruit trees along her walkway and berries galore down the side of her yard and her vegetables look as though they are growing strong. Another neighbor across the street who has three rain barrels, NEVER has to turn her water hose on in the summertime drought!

There are two more garden classrooms to visit in July. On Saturday, 7/21, we will meet at 10:30 a.m. in my front garden at 408 Gilmore Dr. After a short discussion, we will walk to 10132 Hereford Pl. where John Evanoff will be our garden host.

Did you know that:


- You should never spray chemicals or use fertilizers in the garden when temperatures are above 90 degrees—they can burn foliage and sometimes cause death!
- If you clean your eggshells and crush them you can add a bit of lime to your soil? Lime makes your soil alkaline and that helps for pink hydrangeas, peonies and tomatoes!
- If you cut back your flowers during the summer it gives them a rest, the root become stronger and you will have more blooms? Go ahead and cut away especially if you are going on vacation.
- There is a leaf app for iphones? Researchers from Columbia University, the University of Maryland and the Smithsonian developed an encyclopedia of great pictures of leaves, flowers, bark and fruit so go ahead and snap a picture and see if you get the right answer.
- You should call 811 before starting any digging project? Miss Utility will mark all of your utilities so you know where they are for your project
- The Maryland Master Gardeners have a Horticulture Hotline and website?
(301.590.9650/http://mastergardener.umd.edu.)



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Edited Notes from the May 14, 2012 SFCCA Meeting Provided by John Holden

President **David Meininger** chaired the meeting, which was attended by approximately 25 people.

A number of questions about the history of the neighborhood and surrounding area were asked of long-time resident **Marty Maher**.

A budget for the May 20 ice cream social was proposed and discussed. Questions were asked about whether SFCCA would be paying for ice cream for non-residents of South Four Corners, and for those in households that are not members of SFCCA. A motion for expenditure of up to \$400 was approved, with one opposed.

There was considerable discussion of a proposal for ordering SFCCA car magnets or window decals, with a budget of up to \$400. The unit cost of the different options was not indicated. A suggestion was made to add a website address to the designs. The motion was tabled, and David Meininger will work with **Mike DeMott** on this project.

David Meininger proposed an 8-hour program to be held on September 29 at the Argyle Recreation Center, to showcase neighborhood musicians. This included a budget request of \$900, which would include payment to professional musicians in the neighborhood to organize the event. Questions and comments were offered about the budget and the likely attendance throughout the 8-hour day. The motion was tabled until the July meeting.

The following were elected as officers of SFCCA: David Meininger as President; **Glen Richardson** as Vice President; **Richard Messalle** as Treasurer. The reporting of election results was questioned by one SFCCA member present, who indicated that the announced results did not reflect that his ballot had been counted. The positions of Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary are vacant, as there were no candidates announced.

The official minutes of the meeting will be posted at www.southfourcorners.com and distributed via the List Serv.



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Be Prepared

Jim Janssen

Continuing the review of the Plan 9 suggested emergency kit; from the previous newsletter, let's look at the next four items on the list:

Medications

Prescriptions and general over-the-counter medicines that you commonly use (allergy and pain relievers) should be part of your kit. Work with your doctor to have at least a week of prescription meds at all times in case your pharmacy cannot refill them. Be sure to rotate all medicines, prescription and over-the-counter, so they are fresh.

Flashlights

Have a multi-purpose lantern for each major room to be used for general lighting and a personal one for each person including the kids. Lanterns and flashlights should be placed where one can find them in complete darkness. A small

key chain light is handy for everyday use. Also, keep a good flashlight in each vehicle. Have back up batteries for each. I also recommend looking into LEDs; they use less energy therefore the batteries last longer.

Can opener

A good multi-purpose opener that can open bottle caps, cans and remove can lids.

Radio

A multi-powered radio preset to WTOP. Emergency radios come with a variety of power sources, from batteries, to plug-in, to solar and to wind-up/crank.



As you start assembling your emergency kit, you may want a Plan 9 checklist. A checklist can be downloaded from www.montgomerycountymd.gov and search for "plan 9". In the next newsletter, we will review the final two items as well as a couple of additional suggested items and the regular inspection and upkeep of the kit.

Maryland Homestead Property Tax Credit

Betty Batty

Are you eligible for the Maryland Homestead Property Tax Credit? Do you know what this credit means to homeowners?

This credit assists homeowners with large assessment increases on their principal residence. The credit limits the increase in taxable assessments each year to a fixed percentage. I encourage every homeowner to learn more about the credit and to apply if eligible.

Learn more by visiting: www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/homestead.html

ANDRE'S LAWN SERVICES: High school student looking for lawn mowing, yard clean-up, leaf blowing and mulch spreading jobs. Also available to assist homeowners with their planting and yard chores. Has equipment and a pick-up truck. **Contact:** drecalabrese@gmail.com

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