



# SOUTH FOUR CORNERS

## Citizens Association



*Building a stronger community, one neighbor at a time*

Sept/Oct 2018

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Next SFCCA Meeting	1
Mark Your Calendars	1
President's Corner	2
Advocacy	
Beltway Expansion	4, 5
BRT	5
Colesville Rd Safety	6
Upcoming Event	6
Our Local Parks	
Trees	8

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**Sept 17, 2018 – 7 pm**

SFCCA Community Meeting  
Schweinhaut Senior Center

**Sept 22, 2018 – 10 am**

Clean-up of Forest Glen Rd  
(meet at Argyle Park tennis courts)

**Oct 20, 2018 – 3-6 pm**

Community Day and  
Halloween Parade  
Schweinhaut & SFC Park

**Nov 19, 2018 – 7 pm**

SFCCA Community Meeting  
Schweinhaut Senior Center

**Nov 24, 2018 – 10 am**

Clean-up of Forest Glen Rd  
(meet at Argyle Park tennis courts)

**Dec 1, 2018 - 5 pm**

Tree Lighting Celebration

## Next SFCCA Meeting

Monday, September 17 7–8:30 pm

Schweinhaut Senior Center 1000 Forest Glen Road

### Join us for a special two-part meeting:

**1. Featured Guest Speakers: Officers Laurie Reyes and Tara Bond from the Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD) Autism/IDD/Alzheimer's Outreach Program**



**Officers Laurie Reyes and Tara Bond with Buck, the therapy dog, and his owner at MCPD Autism/IDD Night Out event.**

**Officers Reyes and Bond** will provide an overview of the **MCPD Autism/IDD/Alzheimer's Outreach Program**, initially created to address the increase in calls for service involving people who were "missing at risk." The program has grown to provide outreach beyond wandering prevention, and now includes a "layered approach" to awareness and general safety. The outreach program supports people with Autism/IDD/Alzheimer's, their caregivers, and the community-at-large through education, outreach, empowerment, follow up, and response. The program strives to provide the resources needed to maintain a safe, meaningful and supported way of life, and to share ways in which the police can serve as a valuable resource to those in need of assistance.

Officer Laurie Reyes has been a Montgomery County Police officer for twenty years. In 2005, she created the Autism and Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities (IDD), Alzheimer's Outreach Program and has led the program ever since. Officer Reyes and the many incredible officers that support the outreach program are proud to have created a culture of Autism/IDD and Alzheimer's awareness in Montgomery County.

## 2. Community Forum to Discuss Beltway Expansion



Immediately following, we will have an **open forum** where anyone can share information and resources pertaining to Governor Hogan's proposal to widen the Beltway. **Karen Michel, John Holden and Laurence Dickter** will be on hand to answer questions. Refer to the articles on pages 4 and 5 for up-to-date information on this time-sensitive topic.

**We hope you will join us for this important meeting.**

## President's Corner

# WANDERING WITH DEMENTIA

Adapted from Family Caregiver Alliance (<https://www.caregiver.org/print/17>)

### Dear Neighbors,

Caring for a loved one with dementia poses many challenges for families and caregivers. People with dementia have a progressive biological brain disorder that makes it increasingly more difficult for them to remember things, think clearly, communicate with others, and take care of themselves. In addition, dementia can cause mood swings and even change a person's personality and behavior.

Wandering—walking seemingly aimlessly—is a common behavior among people with dementia, and is often triggered by such things as boredom, medication side effects, or the desire to look for something or someone. Those wandering may be trying to fulfill a physical need—thirst, hunger, a need to use the toilet, or exercise. Discovering the triggers for wandering are not always easy, but they can provide insights into dealing with the behavior. **The Family Caregiver Alliance** recommends the following practical strategies for dealing with wandering behavior:

- Make time for regular exercise to minimize restlessness.
- Consider installing new locks that require a key. Position locks high or low on the door; many people with dementia will not think to look beyond eye level. Keep in mind fire and safety concerns for all family members; the lock(s) must be accessible to others and not take more than a few seconds to open.
- Try a barrier like a curtain or colored streamer to mask the door. A “stop” sign or “do not enter” sign also may help.
- Place a black mat or paint a black space on your front porch; this may appear to be an impassable hole to the person with dementia.
- Add “child-safe” plastic covers to doorknobs.
- Consider installing a home security system or monitoring system designed to keep watch over someone with

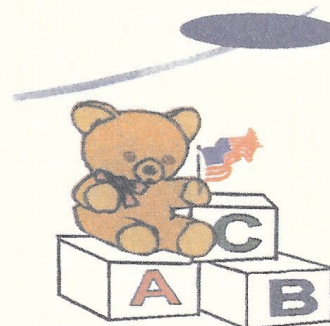
dementia. Also available are new digital devices that can be worn like a watch or clipped on a belt that use global positioning systems (GPS) or other technology to track a person's whereabouts or locate him if he wanders off.

- Put away essential items such as the confused person's coat, purse, or glasses. Some individuals will not go out without certain articles.
- Have your relative wear an ID bracelet and sew ID labels in their clothes. Always have a current photo available should you need to report your loved one missing. Consider leaving a copy on file at the police department or registering the person with the Alzheimer's Association Safe Return program or other emergency tracking service.
- Tell neighbors about your relative's wandering behavior, and make sure they have your phone number.

Let's be in touch.

**Carolyn Stanek Lucy**

SFCCA.President@gmail.com  
(202) 251-6403



### Hilda Estrada's Day Care

10014 Raynor Road  
Silver Spring, Maryland  
20901-2123  
Phone: 301-593-0660

## SFCCA Officers & Chairpersons

### Officers:

Carolyn Stanek Lucy, President • Laurence Dickter, Vice President  
**VOLUNTEER NEEDED FOR SECRETARY** • Richard Messalle, Treasurer

### Chairpersons:

Eileen Broderick, Membership • Nghi Nguyen, Neighborhood Safety  
Jane Jannotta, Newsletter Editor • Dave Nettleton, Newsletter Distribution  
Dave West, Listserv Manager • Betty Batty, Website/Social Media  
John Holden, Welcome Bags • Jenny Cannon, Social Events  
Michael Lucy, Public Works • Earl Shoop, Community Day  
John & Peri Evanoff, Diversity & Inclusion • Jeanne Berman, Gardening

## SFCCA Addresses & Social Media

**Mailing Address:** SFCCA PO Box 792  
Silver Spring, MD 20918-0792

**Website:** [www.southfourcorners.com](http://www.southfourcorners.com)

**Editor:** [SFCCAeditor@gmail.com](mailto:SFCCAeditor@gmail.com)

**SFCCA Yahoo Group Listserv:**  
[www.groups.yahoo.com/group/SFCCAMembers](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/SFCCAMembers)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/southfourcorners/](http://www.facebook.com/southfourcorners/)

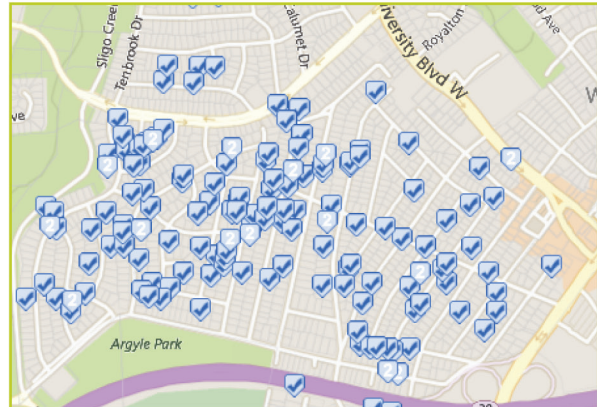
*Like our  
page on  
Face-  
book!*



## OVER 190 HOMES SOLD IN SOUTH FOUR CORNERS SINCE 2005

Your local experts since 2005!

Whether you are selling now or later, let's talk today about your home and how to plan for your best resale.



**Looking to Buy?** We have upcoming listings in Woodmoor, Northwood Park, Kensington Estates, Kensington Parkwood, Leisureworld, Woodside, close-in Bethesda and of course in South Four Corners! ASK ME FOR DETAILS!



707 Forest Glen Rd



404 Harding Drive



10000 Quinby Street

## SAVE THE DATE - NOV 10 - TO GO GREEN!



*even more*  
**OUR TEAM IS GOING GREEN.**

Shred, Recycle, Donate.....and of course a donut!

Argyle Park - 1030 Forest Glen Road

Check our website for more details.

**BEST**  
WASHINGTONIAN  
**2015**

**BEST**  
WASHINGTONIAN  
**2016**

**BEST**  
WASHINGTONIAN  
**2017**

**BEST**  
WASHINGTONIAN  
**2018**

Ranked Among "America's Best Real Estate Agents 2018" by Real Trends and the Wall Street Journal.



tk@tamara4homes.com  
www.tamara4homes.com  
(301) 580-5002 cell • (301) 857-1867 office  
8218 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 310, Bethesda, MD 20814





# GOVERNOR HOGAN'S PLAN TO EXPAND 495 AND 270 WITH FOUR ADDITIONAL LANES

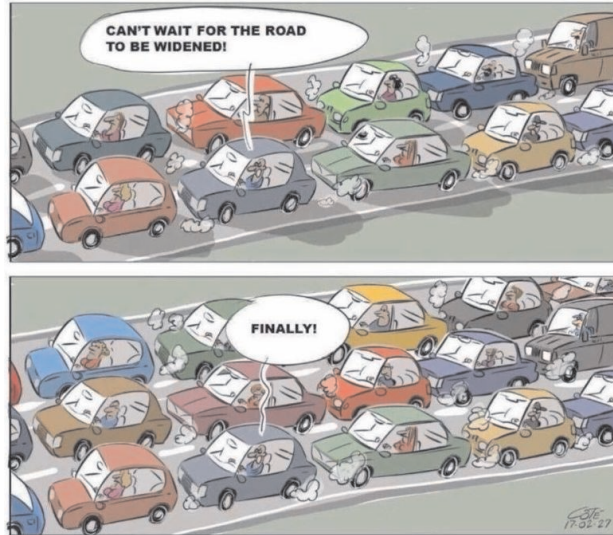
By Karen Michels

**T**housands of homes, thousands and thousands of people, parks that make our area inviting, several churches, schools, and even Holy Cross Hospital are all on the path of the **Beltway expansion**.

In late July the Maryland Department of Transportation and the State Highway Administration presented the second in a series of “workshops” to tell the communities along the Beltway and 270 about the plan to expand the Beltway from bridge to bridge and 270 with four additional lanes. These lanes are called Managed Lanes but that means Toll Lanes. In the oral presentation, 15 alternatives were mentioned. However, Governor Hogan has been very plain in his choice—4 additional toll lanes. That means 12 lanes going through our area of Montgomery County and 16 lanes on 270. Special entrance and exit ramps will be constructed for the toll roads, not at every access to the Beltway. Since the current ramps will not serve the toll roads, some of the toll road ramps will have to be “flyovers”, thus requiring further changes in our visual environment.

Laurence Dickter presented basic information about this endeavor in the Nov/Dec 2017 SFCCA newsletter. If this is a new subject for you, I urge you to read it: <https://southfourcorners.files.wordpress.com/2017/10/sfcca-nov-dec-2017.pdf>

**The cost to expand the Beltway is estimated to be \$9 billion.** The governor plans to use private money to rebuild the roadway, then the private



firm(s) will receive the income from the tolls. Tolls will vary depending upon traffic conditions, but the lanes will never be free. The presentation did not contain specifics as to land-taking and alignment changes, including how the current entrance and exit ramps will have to be pushed out into the communities to accommodate the extra width. The diagrams simply showed a small sketch of how each alternative would alter the roadway. After the presentation, small “working group tables” were set up in the building with display boards so that questions could be asked of the project employees. The crowd was so large that asking questions—to which canned answers were given—was almost impossible.

The public workshop presentation can be found at <https://495-270-p3.com>. A survey form and a comments section are available there.

Property and environmental studies are scheduled for display at a workshop in January or February. Theoretically, the display boards will show more specific land takings. Also theoretically, home owners will be paid the assessment

value of their homes. But to what new place will they/we move? Available homes in our area of Montgomery County are limited, and tax assessments are often lower than market value.

Local groups are forming to oppose this invasion:  
<https://www.facebook.com/Citizens-Against-Beltway-Expansion-377186249458615/>

<https://www.localdvm.com/new/s/i-270/residents-push-against-road-expansion/1342604569>

Governor Hogan can be reached at: <http://governor.maryland.gov/contact-the-governors-office/>

And here are three interesting web sites that deal with the mentality of expanding roadways:  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Induced\\_demand](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Induced_demand)

<https://usa.streetsblog.org/2018/07/23/washington-dot-chief-fixing-congestion-with-highways-fiscally-impossible/>

<https://uspirg.org/reports/usp/highway-boondoggles-4>

A quote from one of the interesting web sites is “An aphorism among some traffic engineers is ‘Trying to cure traffic congestion by adding more capacity is like trying to cure obesity by loosening your belt.’”

If you are unable to look at these web sites, **I urge you to attend our upcoming SFCCA meeting on September 17.** Information will be presented, and you can talk to Laurence Dickter, John Holden or me after the meeting. ■





THIS AERIAL IMAGE depicts the current Capital Beltway between Brunett and Lorain Avenues. According to a July 18<sup>th</sup> Montgomery Planning Board press release:

*"Among the alternatives are combinations of high occupancy vehicle (HOV) lanes, high occupancy toll (HOT) lanes, managed toll lanes and reversible lanes . . . Any selected build alternative is likely to have significant effects on parkland and the associated facilities, programs and natural and cultural resources in both counties as well as significant community impacts. In order to address the impact of the alternatives, the Managed Lanes Study Area will ultimately evaluate properties and resources within approximately 300 feet of the existing I-495 and I-270 highway centerline."*

The current width of I-495 around this area is 135-160 feet. This means properties up to 225 feet beyond the edge of the Beltway are being evaluated, as illustrated by the diagonal line in the image (yellow when printed in color). The top of the diagonal line is just beyond Forest Glen Road. But the impacts go far

beyond—any expansion will also have negative impacts on adjacent property values, travel in the area during the years-long period of construction, state resources available for other projects, etc. (Submitted by John Holden)

## BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) CHALLENGE CONTINUES

By Karen Michels

The Montgomery County Council and Isaiah Leggett continue in their determination to put BRT on Route 29 from Burtonsville to the Silver Spring Metro. The plan includes expensive, elongated buses (\$1.5 million each) and expensive, elongated stations (\$1 million each) limited in placement and exclusively for BRT buses. The current approach to BRT buses and the study thereof is to run the buses down the median of Colesville Road below New Hampshire Avenue. This is because traffic backs up at or before New Hampshire coming south in the AM, and from downtown Silver Spring to beyond New Hampshire going north in the PM. That backup would involve all buses going on the same road in the same direction, whether they are fancy or regular. If BRT buses were caught in that slowdown, then part of the reason for, and justification of, the BRT—to move bus riders from north of New Hampshire with speed—would not be met. Thus the suggestion that the median be used as the roadway for BRT buses. Because the existing median is not wide enough to accommodate the bus roadway, the plan is to narrow the existing lanes from 12 feet to 10 feet both south and north. Imagine driving in a 10 foot lane next to a Metro bus or a large truck.

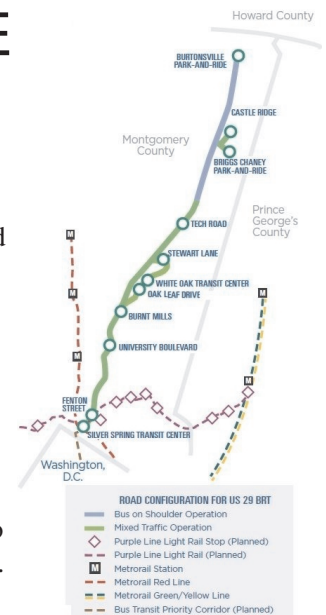
In addition, the project planners want to install a stop light at the intersection of Lanark Way and Colesville Road, with a green arrow for traffic turning left onto Lanark “for the good

of the community”, of course.

Note: in the past the State Highway Association has refused permission to install a stoplight close to another existing stoplight, unless a death occurs. Will they relent this time?

The left-turn light would give cut-through traffic a guaranteed way to use our neighborhood roads instead of the jug handle to go west on University Boulevard. When I asked officials how that would help us with cut-through

traffic, they were surprised that we had a problem. All of the Four Corners “advisors” have repeatedly raised the problem of cut-through traffic and have asked how BRT plans would help that. No answers. The planners are focused on BRT, nothing else: not on community challenges caused by the needs of BRT, nor University Boulevard traffic, nor pedestrian safety—especially for passengers using other kinds of buses. The planners are paid to make BRT happen no matter the cost in dollars and to the communities along the way. The advisors are sure that the impetus for this push for BRT is the White Oak project. But that’s another subject. ■



# COLESVILLE ROAD SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

By Laurence Dickter



Have you ever attempted to turn left onto Sligo Creek Parkway at the intersection with Colesville Road without the benefit of the green turn arrow, only to sit waiting in traffic while facing down speeding motorists careening around the wide curve on Colesville between Franklin Avenue and the Parkway?

How about trying to walk across Colesville Road at the same intersection with the Parkway, only to have the walk signal stop blinking even before you can get to the other side?

These and other traffic and pedestrian safety issues where Colesville Road, Sligo Creek Parkway and St. Andrews Way converge were all agenda items at an "on-street" meeting I attended with State and County highway officials earlier this year. The meeting also included the President of the North Hills of Sligo Civic Association and other residents of the North Hills

neighborhood, which is wedged in just inside the Beltway between Colesville Road and Brunett Avenue.

As a result of this meeting, the Maryland State Highway Administration agreed to reduce the speed limit to 35 MPH on Colesville south of the Beltway to Sligo Creek Parkway. Dropping the speed limit below 40 MPH enables Montgomery County to install speed cameras to enforce the lower speed limit.

New thermoplastic crosswalks, which are more visible and less slippery than paint when wet, will be installed at the intersection of Colesville and the Parkway. New signage and improved lighting will also be added.

Other key changes we asked for and obtained include both delayed and extended pedestrian crossings at the intersection. Delayed crossing gives pedestrians a critical few seconds head start, while extended crossing gives pedestrians more time to get across Colesville Road.

**The ability to bring about these improvements demonstrates once again the influence that Montgomery County's organized civic movement, of which South Four Corners Citizens Association (SFCCA) is a part, can wield to effect positive change in ways that we as individuals cannot.** With your support, our Association can continue to advocate on behalf of our neighborhood and to work together selectively with sister civic organizations around issues that affect our corner of Montgomery County and beyond. ■

## Law Offices of Robert Coyne

400 University Blvd. West  
Silver Spring, MD  
301-681-5013  
[www.rcoyne-law.com](http://www.rcoyne-law.com)

**Bring this ad in to receive a free consultation**

## Upcoming Event

# COMMUNITY DAY AND HALLOWEEN PARADE CELEBRATION!

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20 3-6 PM**



Join us this fall for a special day. **Our annual neighborhood Halloween Parade is taking a different "route" this year and will be part of the Community Day Celebration!** Community Day begins at 3 pm at the Schweinhaut Center on Forest Glen Road with food, a plant exchange, music, friends and fun activities

for all! This will be followed by our annual neighborhood Halloween Parade. Kids are welcome to come in costume and **meet at the front entrance at 4pm.** We'll parade around the parking lot and South Four Corners Park to show off our costumes before returning to the center for continued Community Day events. All are welcome—ghosts, skeletons, goblins, princesses and superheros!



Email **Earl Shoop** ([eshoop@verizon.net](mailto:eshoop@verizon.net)) to get involved in Community Day. **Volunteers still needed!** With your help, we can make Community Day a day to remember! Look for details in the weeks ahead on the neighborhood listserv. Email **Jenny Cannon** ([jenny.cannon@gmail.com](mailto:jenny.cannon@gmail.com)) with questions about the Halloween Parade. **We hope to see you there!**



# Your Trusted *AND* Award Winning South Four Corners Residential Expert



COMING SOON | 10016 Lorain Ave.



COMING SOON | 10002 Reddick



COMING SOON | 9921 Dallas Ave.



JUST LISTED | 9508 Pin Oak Dr.



I am very proud to be recognized  
as one of the top Real Estate agents  
in the metro area. I am grateful  
for your trust and support.

*thank you*



JUST LISTED | 1700 Sherwood Rd.



SOLD | 10121 Markham St.



SOLD | 105 Whitmoor Ter.



SOLD | 10007 Brunett Ave.

*\*Homes Sold From  
January - Aug. 19, 2018*

## SOUTH FOUR CORNERS MARKET UPDATE

AVERAGE SALES PRICE: **\$477,814** • AVERAGE DAYS MARKET: **16 Days**



**BETTY BATTY**  
OF LONG & FOSTER REAL ESTATE

Exclusive Affiliate of Christie's International  
7161 Woodmont Ave., Bethesda, MD 20814  
battyrealestate@gmail.com



O: 240.800.5155 ■ C: 301.832.7609



[www.bettybatty.com](http://www.bettybatty.com)





## Our Local Parks

# TREES THAT CONNECT US

By Dominic Quattrocchi



**Argyle Local Park, circa 2012.**  
Note group assembled under the trees for scale.

Montgomery County's South Four Corners community has lost two arboreal giants. Argyle Local Park was home to two massive trees—each over 200 years in age. Now those trees are no more.

A massive red oak (*Quercus rubra*) fell across Forest Glen Road in perfectly calm weather on July 3, 2018 joining the famed “Bicentennial” Black Gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*) that fell a few seasons earlier. With both of these longstanding trees now a memory, what remains is a sadly ordinary expanse of mowed grass where once was a much-loved gathering point connecting neighbors to the present and past.

roots were most certainly intertwined, supportive of each other; their canopies adjusted to accommodate one another. They were likely best friends, if trees can be friends. Their cohabitation certainly created a microhabitat, and when one fell, it's very possible that the other tree, left alone, was predisposed to unfamiliar environmental conditions. Catastrophic failure soon resulted. Or maybe our new climate paradigm is at play: unpredictability, frequent and sometimes vicious droughts, heat waves, heavier more intense rains, temperature extremes when least expected, or a culmination of variations stressing these giants to the point of failure.

Perhaps it was a gesture of respect to a recently departed friend, that the red oak fell hours before the 4th of July, homage to the Bicentennial Black Gum. These two specimens grew next to one another for nearly two centuries. Their



**The Black Gum tree falls, March 2014.**  
Bicentennial plaque in foreground installed circa 1976 to acknowledge notable trees dating from 1776, still standing at our Country's 200th birthday celebration in 1976.



**The Red Oak has a similar fate,**  
July 3, 2018

Montgomery County General Info & Service: 311 Outside of Montgomery County: 240-777-0311

TTY (for hearing impaired): 240-773-3556 Police & fire emergency: 911

Police non-emergency: 301-279-8000 Fire non-emergency: 240-776-4700

24-Hour Emergency Preparedness Hotline: 240-777-4200

Power outages, downed wires: Pepco 877-737-2662 Website: <http://www.pepco.com/outage-center/>