



SOUTH FOUR CORNERS

Citizens Association



Building a stronger community, one neighbor at a time

Nov/Dec 2019

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Nov 9, 2019 9-11 am

Go Green Day!
Forest Glen Rd, Argyle Park
(details page 6)

Nov 16, 2019 – 10 am

Adopt a Road, Forest Glen Rd
(meet at Argyle Park tennis courts)

Nov 18, 2019 – 7 pm

SFCCA Community Meeting
Schweinhaut Senior Center

Jan 18, 2020 – 10 am

Adopt a Road, Forest Glen Rd
(meet at Argyle Park tennis courts)

**** DATE CHANGE ****

Tues. Jan 21, 2020 – 7 pm

SFCCA Community Meeting
Schweinhaut Senior Center

Feb 15, 2020 – 10 am

Adopt a Road, Forest Glen Rd
(meet at Argyle Park tennis courts)

Next SFCCA Meeting

Monday, November 18, 7-8:30 pm

Schweinhaut Senior Center 1000 Forest Glen Road

Featuring a conversation with:

Delegate Jheanelle Wilkins

Maryland State Legislative District 20

Please join your neighbors as SFCCA welcomes District 20 Delegate **Jheanelle Wilkins**, one of our representatives to the Maryland state legislature. She will give us a preview of what she expects to happen during the annual 90-day legislative session that will convene in Annapolis in January. Delegate Wilkins will also share with us her own goals and legislative priorities for the session. Following her presentation, you are all encouraged to ask questions, express your concerns, and suggest to her what issues you believe the legislature ought to be focusing on.



Delegate Wilkins has served in the Maryland House of Delegates, one of Maryland's two state legislative bodies, since January 2017. In 2018, she was elected to a full 4-year term that started in January 2019. She currently serves on the House Ways and Means Committee and as the Chair of the Montgomery County Delegation's Land Use, Transportation, and Public Safety Committee. Among her achievements in Annapolis, Delegate Wilkins cites legislation in the areas of maternal health, justice reform and racial profiling, educational equity and the economic security of families. When the legislature is not in session, Delegate Wilkins serves as the Director of State and Local Government Affairs for the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, our nation's oldest, largest and most diverse civil and human rights coalition, consisting today of over 200 organizations.

Born in Kingston, Jamaica, Delegate Wilkins earned her B. A. in Sociology from the University of Delaware and a Master of Public Administration in Social Policy from American University.

SFCCA meetings are held bi-monthly on the third Monday of January, March, May, July, September, and November at Schweinhaut Senior Center, 1000 Forest Glen Rd. When the third Monday of the month falls on a federal holiday, the meeting is postponed, space permitting, to the following day.

President's Corner

THE CALL OF FALL

Dear Neighbors,

Fall certainly fell when the rain finally came in mid-October. Distressed trees perked up a bit and their fall colors started to show.

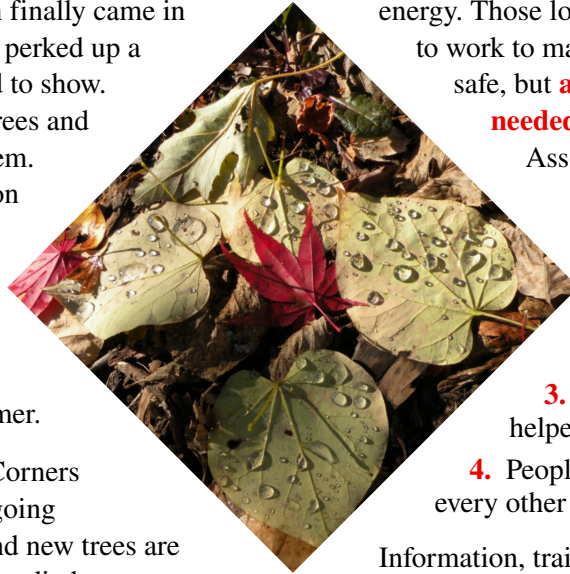
Acorns litter the ground under oak trees and squirrels skitter around gathering them.

Children wear sweaters and jackets on their way to the school buses or when they play outside.

Gardens are folding down for the winter. Daily walks become much more enjoyable when one doesn't have to face the heat of summer.

It's a beautiful time for South Four Corners since we have a variety of old trees going through the fall cycle once again. And new trees are being planted where the old ones have died, guaranteeing the tree cover that is so much a part of how our community looks and feels.

With fall and colder weather comes a different kind of



energy. Those loyal Four Corners volunteers continue to work to make our neighborhood welcoming and safe, but **additional volunteers are always**

needed. The South Four Corners Citizens Association needs:

1. A Secretary
2. Someone to be our delegate to the monthly meeting of the Montgomery County Civic Federation
3. A Community Day Coordinator, and helpers to plan and get the word out
4. People to help clean up the roadsides every other month (signs posted)

Information, training and advice are always available. Come to the next meeting and talk to one of the leaders about the possibilities.

Karen Michels

SFCCA.President@gmail.com

Important Phone Numbers:

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/>

Law Offices of Robert Coyne

400 University Blvd. West
Silver Spring, MD
301-681-5013
www.rcoyne-law.com

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

SFCCA Officers & Chairpersons

Officers:

Karen Michels, President • Laurence Dickter, Vice President •
Secretary **VACANT** • Richard Messalle, Treasurer

Chairpersons:

Emma Bennett, Social Media/Social Events Chair/Listserv Manager/
Website • Eileen Broderick, Membership • John Holden, Welcome Bags •
Jane Jannotta, Newsletter Editor/ Website • Michael Lucy, Public Works •
Dave Nettleton, Newsletter Distribution • Nghi Nguyen,
Neighborhood Safety

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SFCCA Addresses & Social Media

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Silver Spring, MD 20918-0792

Website: www.southfourcorners.com

Editor: SFCCAeditor@gmail.com

SFCCA Groups.io Listserv:
<https://groups.io/g/SFCCAMembers>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/southfourcorners/

ELITE BODIES by Jeff

SMALL GROUPS, BIG RESULTS!



Fitness at Four Corners

We all know that regular exercise is good for for us, but with so many options these days its hard to choose. A lot of people resort to running, some go to the gym and some even play with their children to get their daily dose of activity.

But fitness just like most things, has layers. There is the cardiovascular endurance (which runners excel at), there is the strength aspect (which helps your muscles, and joints), there is balance, agility and even coordination. Most fitness routine are lacking in satisfying these different layers.

Elite Bodies presents an integrated approach to help you cover these areas. We are in the Woodmoor Shopping Center- Upstairs in the building. If you are going north. Look up above the bakery and you will see our sign. Our program is ideal for both beginners and the most active individuals alike.

Health Tip of the Month

Pressed for time? Exercising for 20 minutes, 3 times a day, is equivalent to doing a 1 hour workout. So spread it out if you don't have a chunk of time.

Interested in our program? Please contact us below. We have wonderful small group fitness classes for everyone and also have a program for post-partum mothers.

CONTACT US
10111 Colesville rd, STE
131,
Silver Spring, MD 20901

(240) 645 3708
www.elitebodies.net

RECAP OF SEPT 16 SFCCA MEETING WITH COUNTY EXECUTIVE MARC ELRICH

By John Holden

Nearly 100 people attended the September 16 town hall-style meeting held by SFCCA in which Montgomery County Executive Marc Elrich addressed neighborhood residents and answered numerous questions on a broad range of topics.

Mr. Elrich began by stating clearly his opposition to the current proposal from Governor Hogan to expand the beltway and I-270 with new toll lanes. Local officials have offered alternative ways to address highway traffic congestion, including plans to increase use of the existing Intercounty Connector (ICC) / MD 200 and to use reversible lanes on I-270 for express lanes. Mr. Elrich suggested that the Governor's proposed toll lanes are not about the traffic, but about the money needed to do an expensive American Legion Bridge expansion proposed by the governor. Elrich stated that Governor Hogan had recently killed state funding for all transit projects except the Purple Line.

The County Executive then touched on a wide variety of other issues, examples of which are noted briefly here. The first task requiring his attention after becoming County Executive on December 3 was to cut the County budget by \$50 million; much of his time until March focused on 'working to scrub the budget.' One key step was to cut funding for the costly Montrose Parkway East project. Elrich stated that early childhood education is a spending priority of his, and also that the state's middle class tax break for child care does not help low income families. He asserted that efforts to combat climate change should include commercial buildings, residential housing, and transportation; Elrich noted that there is much expertise in the County in this area. On the environment, he mentioned



including the possibility of using a BRT bus lane in the median on Route 29 (Colesville Road), claiming that the "road is wide enough" for such. Questions were later raised about the associated safety issues, both for pedestrian crossing (including by students at Blair High School) and for vehicles using traffic lanes that would have to be narrowed. It was also noted that input from the Route 29 Corridor Advisory Committees (CAC) was mostly ignored or rejected. Our SFCCA representative to the CAC (Karen Michels, now SFCCA President) later said that she was confused by his response that 'I didn't set up those committees.'

The first audience question of the night was raised by Dave West, who noted the issue of under-funding of public schools in the state's 20-year plan. Elrich stated that he wants the state to raise the needed funds, noting that the Montgomery County Council does not want to raise property taxes.

Mr. Elrich was asked about pressures from interest groups and others to "upzone" areas of the County within 1/4 mile of future BRT stations—including Four Corners—in order to allow the building of multi-family housing and other development where it is not currently permitted. It was posited that such a zoning change would

the intention to ban plastic straws and single-use plastics.

Mr. Elrich raised the topic of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT),

dramatically and adversely impact single-family, residential neighborhoods like ours.

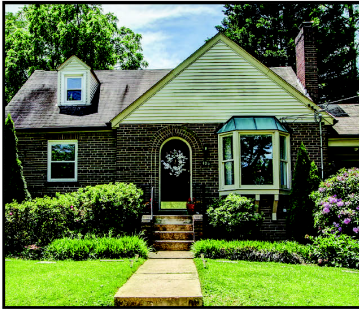
Questions and concerns were expressed about possible development at the Forest Glen Metro Station, replacing the existing parking lot with additional housing. Another neighbor contributed statements in favor of expansion of bike lanes and the County BikeShare program. Acknowledging that his views may not be popular with most of those attending, one attending neighbor expressed his support for beltway toll lane expansion, and also challenged the County Executive around issues related to crime and illegal immigration to the U.S. from Central America. Mr. Elrich responded by noting that past U.S. actions have contributed to the conditions of violence and poverty that have led to the fleeing of refugees from Central American countries, and Elrich defended the County's focus on public safety. He noted that the County's policies and practices do not make it a 'sanctuary county' for refugees, and also pointed out that those immigrants who have been involved in serious crimes have been apprehended through the cooperation and assistance of other immigrant residents. Mr. Elrich highlighted that reporting by resident immigrants is vital to police efforts to protect public safety, and that this would not happen if residents were to fear that their cooperation with local police would lead to questions about their own immigration status.

In response to a question about the option for public financing of election campaigns (available for the 2018 elections), Mr. Elrich strongly emphasized the need for citizens to do community organizing, to pay attention to candidate positions on important

(continued on page 6)

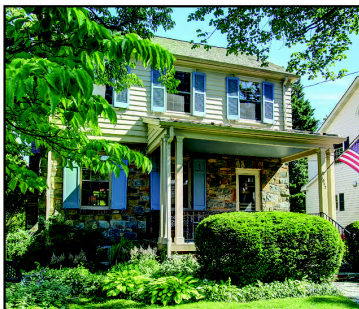
FEATURED | LISTINGS

SOLD • \$499,000



406 LANARK WAY

SOLD • \$855,000



1017 N. NOYES DR.

UNDER CONTRACT • \$575,000



10712 LORAIN AVE.

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Thanks again for another successful year.

And we look forward to working with you in 2020.

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(continued from page 4)

issues at election time, and to find out who is contributing to the election campaigns of candidates. He stated that there is no consequence in elections for candidates who accept contributions from developers and others with special interests, to whom they become beholden. He encouraged all residents

to stay informed about issues (including through the news updates that he publishes), and to communicate directly with him or his Special Assistant, Dale Tibbitts (dale.tibbitts@montgomerycountymd.gov).

One active South Four Corners neighbor who attended the session expressed afterwards that she was

"feeling a little bit more optimistic about the beltway, and more disturbed about the other projects that are going to impact us as well (BRT, Forest Glen Metro, etc.)." Noting the good turnout for the meeting, she also stated that she "hopes that it revitalizes some energy in the community." Such an outcome would clearly benefit all of us. □

Upcoming Event

TAMARA KUCIK TEAM HOLDING BI-ANNUAL GO GREEN DAY!

NOV 9, 9-11 AM

Free Shred, Donate, Dump event benefiting **A Wider Circle**. Please bring non-perishable canned and boxed food donations, such as stuffing, gravy, cranberry sauce, canned vegetables, boxed potatoes, mac & cheese, vegetable broth, cornbread mix, and/or Giant and Safeway gift cards (for perishables). Then jump right in on these **FREE** services:

SHRED sensitive documents

DONATE gently used household items, furniture and professional clothing to A Wider Circle (tax receipts provided)

DUMP your junk—anything that can't be reused will be properly disposed of or recycled

DINE on fresh coffee and donuts!

WHERE: 1030 Forest Glen Road at Argyle Park

Questions? Contact tk@tamara4homes.com

Event Recap

HALLOWEEN PARADE

OCT 26

On the final Saturday of an otherwise-rainy stretch of October, we were thrilled to have a dry autumn day for our annual Halloween Parade. Donning their Hallow's Eve best, a lively swarm of ghosts, superheroes, princesses, dinosaurs—and even several dogs in costume—could be seen parading up Portland Road, through the bioswale on Lanark, and down Dallas Avenue. The turn-out was truly exceptional! After the festive procession, children and parents alike convened at South Four Corners Park to enjoy special treats and good company. It was a lovely opportunity to gather with neighbors, new and old. Thank you to everyone who made this event a huge success!



Photos by Emma Bennett





SOLD in South Four Corners



811 Lanark Way



10107 Renfrew Rd



9801 Forest Grove Dr
Multiple offers!



1023 Stirling Rd
Multiple offers, as-is!

Watch for
this home to
return to
market, fully
renovated
and updated!

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New! Members Listserv

IMPORTANT CHANGES COMING TO THE SFCCA MEMBERS LISTSERV

By Emma Bennett

Yahoo Groups is shutting down after more than 18 years, and the company is deleting all content from the site in mid-December. In its notice to users:

“Starting December 14, 2019 Yahoo Groups will no longer host user created content on its sites. New content can no longer be uploaded after October 28, 2019. Sending/Receiving email functionality is not going away, you can continue to communicate via any email client with your group members.”

Due to these impending changes to Yahoo Groups, SFCCA Members will be moving to a new listserv platform called **Groups.io**. Please follow these steps to join our **NEW Groups.io SFCCA Members Listserv**:

1. To join our new private group, follow this link: <https://groups.io/g/SFCCAMembers>. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click the blue "Apply for Membership in this Group" button. Once your membership has been approved, you will receive an email that contains a link to confirm your account.



2. All messages posted in the group will be sent to the email address you provided. You will also be able to view messages by visiting <https://groups.io/g/SFCCAMembers>.
3. You can set your subscription settings here: <https://groups.io/g/SFCCAMembers/editsub>. You can opt to receive: all messages in individual emails, collections of messages in a digest, a daily summary, or only special notices.
4. The email address for this group is: SFCCAMembers@groups.io. The system allows for participants to post via web or email; you can send emails directly to this email address to post new topics. Please add this email address to your safe sender list in your contacts.

Thank you for your help in transitioning our beloved listserv to Groups.io! If you encounter any trouble joining Groups.io, please email **Emma Bennett** at emelbenn.io@gmail.com

Membership



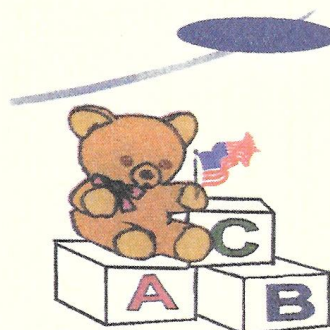
Support our community!

Become a member of the South Four Corners Citizens Association.

Join today! Only \$15 per year:

- Pay by cash/check at the upcoming SFCCA meeting
- Pay by check payable to SFCCA, send to: SFC Membership PO Box 792 Silver Spring, MD 20918-0792
- Pay online using credit card or PayPal at <https://southfourcorners.com/membership/>

For more information contact Eileen Broderick, Membership, at eileen@starpower.net



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