

Situated in the green hills & valleys of Sligo Creek & its tributaries, abutting the burgeoning downtown Silver Spring

# Seven Oaks Evanswood



CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION  
SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND

**FIRST MEETING OF 2014-15: TUESDAY, OCT. 28, 7 pm,  
SILVER SPRING LIBRARY, Ellsworth Ave.**

**Clayton R. Stewart, Principal Civil Engineer for WSSC:  
WSSC water main replacement activity**

**General election dates:** Early voting runs from Thursday, Oct. 23, through Thursday, Oct. 30. The nearest early-voting site is the Silver Spring Civic Building. Election day is Tuesday, Nov. 4; our polling places are Sligo Creek and Highland View Elementary Schools. For instructions on registering, voting early, or voting absentee, go to [www.elections.state.md.us/voting/](http://www.elections.state.md.us/voting/).

## **WSSC Water Main Replacement**

The Washington Suburban Sanitation Commission (WSSC) is planning water main replacement and relocation projects throughout our neighborhood, beginning in early 2015.

The work involves (1) all the streets bounded by Woodside Parkway, Schuyler Rd., Sligo Creek (including those streets), and Colesville Rd.; (2) Mayfair Dr. from Ellsworth to Pershing, plus Pershing from Mayfair to Woodside Pkwy.; and (3) parts of Worth Ave. (9700 block), Hamilton Ave. (100-400 blocks), Three Oaks Dr. (all), Manchester Rd. (9200-9200 blocks), and Franklin Ave (300-400 blocks). WSSC has a clickable map at <http://gisweb.wsscwater.com/InYourNeighborhood/index.html>.

October 2014 Issue

Next meeting:  
Tuesday, October 28  
7:00 – 9:00 pm  
Silver Spring Library

## AGENDA

7:00: WSSC representative on water main replacement in parts of the SOECA area.

7:45-8:30: New/old business

8:30: Election of officers for 2014-15. Incumbents are running for re-election. See p. 4

## In this issue:

Election information and link

May 20 minutes

Tree initiative

Purple Line, dog park updates

**Oct 25, 9:30 am Purple Line Compact Workshop. Sign up here**  
<http://conta.cc/1sAMZxf>

**The next contra dance at the Civic Building takes place on Thursday, Nov. 13, 7:00 – 10:00 pm. All dances are taught; come early for the beginners' session. \$10 (FSGW members, \$8).**

SOECA boundaries are: Colesville Road on the West, Cedar and Fenton Streets on the South, Bonifant and Wayne on the East, and Franklin and Caroline Avenues on the North.

## Minutes of May 20 Meeting

The meeting, held at Silver Spring International Middle School jointly with Park Hills Citizens Association, was a pre-primary forum for candidates for County Council District 5 and House of Delegates District 20, all but one of them Democrats. The Green Party D20 candidate, Dan Robinson, was also present. [Because the primary election is behind us, I will not summarize the candidates' remarks, but only note that, among the Democrats, the primary winner for Council D5 is Tom Hucker, and the nominees for the three Delegate seats are Sheila Hixson, David Moon, and Will Smith. There are no Republicans running for District 20 or for Council D5. There are four Republicans and one Green running for the four At-Large Council seats.]

Treasurer Bill Kaupert's report showed that the SOECA checking account stands at \$4354.41, and that one new household has joined since April.

## Purple Line / TPSS Update

The Working Group for Residential Wayne Avenue Purple Line Design, which includes the four civics along Wayne Ave., and the Coalition of Purple Line Neighborhoods, has been working on various Purple Line design issues. One is the traction power substation (TPSS) that the Maryland Transit Authority (MTA) has been planning for the intersection of Wayne Ave. and Greenbrier Dr. The groups have proposed a number of alternatives, including a site at the Silver Spring International Middle School (SSIMS) that would fit well with the planned parking layout at the school.

The currently planned Wayne Ave. TPSS location is one of only two along the Purple Line route planned for residential locations. The other one is on Arliss St. near Flower Ave. The Residential Wayne Ave. group is pressing for a change in location of the Arliss TPSS as well, such as moving it to the Giant parking lot.

Another issue is the 13-ft high retaining wall planned for the corner of Wayne and Dale. The need for this wall is driven in part by the planned widening of Wayne at that point to the equivalent of seven lanes; the group is suggesting eliminating the right-turn lane for westbound traffic at this and other intersections to reduce road width.

The MTA is spending money elsewhere in the County to mitigate the effects of the Purple Line – e.g., tunneling Jones Bridge Rd. under the PL, bridging Connecticut Ave., making tunnels for golf carts – and it should mitigate them in east Silver Spring as well.

## Tree Canopy Initiative

The tree program started this past spring by Sligo Creek Neighbors for a Sustainable Community, Inc. (SCNSCI) to provide homeowners with new trees is approaching its first planting of about 50 trees, planned for Nov. 18-21. Due to age, storms, Pepco, and development in recent years, we have lost much of our tree canopy, and much of the benefits of shading our homes and streets, and easing air pollution.

The time for requesting a tree for this fall has passed, but there will be a new round for next spring. To order a tree – or to remove a stump or to volunteer – contact SCNSCI at [sevenoaksevenswood@gmail.com](mailto:sevenoaksevenswood@gmail.com).

**Private property trees.** For a tree on your property, SCNSCI will set up a meeting with Casey Trees (CT), an organization that does community outreach and events, monitors tree canopy, and advocates for trees. An arborist from CT will meet with you, walk your property, and help you choose the right tree for the right place from their River Smart Homes brochure ([bit.ly/1nioj6X](http://bit.ly/1nioj6X)). The price is right too: a co-pay of only \$25. SCNSCI covers the remaining costs.

Casey Trees has a list of species, but availability can vary, and space, moisture and soil type affect the choices. Trees are typically 1½" to 2" in diameter, 6 ft. to 10 ft. tall. You choose the tree and species. Tree lists for the spring planting will be finalized on Jan. 30.

**Public right-of-way (ROW) trees.** If you want a tree in the County (ROW) abutting your property, SCNSCI will bundle your request with others and pass it on to the County, which has a bit more money for tree replacement than in recent years. A County arborist will visit and determine whether the site is appropriate for a large or a small tree, based on utility locations and tree placement regulations. You then choose a tree from the County list ([bit.ly/1joV4Re](http://bit.ly/1joV4Re)).

Other tree programs include the Park & Planning Dept.'s "Leaves for Trees" program, which provides a

\$25 coupon towards a tree purchase at selected nurseries ([bit.ly/1qW1PrM](http://bit.ly/1qW1PrM)) and the Dept. of Environmental Protection's Rainscapes Rewards Rebate Program for large-scale rebates for setting up rain gardens ([bit.ly/1sIPXyQ](http://bit.ly/1sIPXyQ)).

**Stump removal.** SCNSCI will bundle requests for the County to remove stumps in the ROW. SCNSCI will also bundle requests for removing stumps on private property and help find a vendor at a reduced cost.

**Tree care.** For the SCNSI tree program, tree care is broken down by season in the CT brochure. Conservation Montgomery also offers "Tree Care 101" for \$20 per person, usually on a Saturday morning. Contact SCNSCI ([sevenoaksevanswood@gmail.com](mailto:sevenoaksevanswood@gmail.com)) if you're interested. We'd need at least 10 attendees.

**Volunteer!** SCNSCI needs help to spread the word and work with Casey Trees and our neighbors. Seven Oaks/Evanswood encompasses ~700 homes, so there is a lot of ground to cover. Volunteers will assemble orders and coordinate site visits.

## Sligo Ave. Police Station Update

The site of the old police station on Sligo Avenue has been assigned by the County Executive to the Department of Housing and Community Affairs for consideration as an affordable artist housing redevelopment project. Within the next few months, the County will be meeting with the community to discuss a redevelopment plan that includes artist housing and arts-related community uses.

## Three Oaks Drive update

On Oct. 16, the Planning Board held a hearing concerning the Gough property on Three Oaks Drive near Sligo Creek Parkway. The owner's original plan for three single-family houses on this heavily wooded site with steep slopes and highly erodible soils was denied by Planning Board staff; the owner is now proposing two houses. Neighbors are hoping to preserve this high priority interior forest through purchase and land trust protection.

## Water Watchdogs and Chelsea Runoff

Anne Vorce, with the help of many locals and of stormwater expert Richard Klein, has been monitoring the Chelsea construction site to prevent sediment runoff into Sligo Creek and reporting problems to the

Dept. of Permitting Services (DPS). Most, but not all, potential problems in advance of storms have been headed off. Recently, DPS issued a notice of violation due to exposed dirt around the site, in response to which the developer added a silt fence along part of Springvale Rd. Klein wrote to DPS to urge planting green cover on the exposed areas before winter, and DPS responded that they are working with the developer to address those concerns.

Anyone who sees a runoff problem, or any other pollution, in Sligo Creek can report it through Water Watchdogs (WWD) at [ReportSligoPollution@fosc.org](mailto:ReportSligoPollution@fosc.org). The email will be relayed directly to DEP. WWD was created by Anne Vorce and Kathleen Samiy, in partnership with Friends of Sligo Creek and the Dept. of Environmental Protection (DEP). Recent reports include high flow on Sept. 10 despite lack of rain – it turned out to be due to a water main break – and an orange oily fluid on Sept. 27 that was due to a naturally occurring bacteria.

## SSCAB Update

Jonathan Bernstein, our representative on the Silver Spring Citizens Advisory Board (SSCAB), reports that its Committees have been going full throttle. On September 29, the Commercial and Economic Development Committee met jointly with the Neighborhoods Committee to hear a presentation on plans to redevelop the southwest corner of Colesville Rd. and East-West Highway, now the site of a shopping center that includes Einstein Bagels and Starbucks. The developer plans to build two 14-story rental apartment buildings and include retail and public access space.

The Transportation, Energy & Environment Committee met with Robert Kronenberg, Supervisor at M-NCPPC, and Council Member Hans Reimer. Both the Planning Department and Reimer's office have proposed three mini charrettes on what our residents would like to see in the public realm in the coming days. One suggestion is that we brand this effort "Our Silver Spring," to mean the public's input into how our community should grow rather than simply being a repository for development schemes.

For fuller notes, see [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/silverspring/boardscommittees/cab/index.html#agendas](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/silverspring/boardscommittees/cab/index.html#agendas). For correspondence to/from SSCAB, see [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/silverspring/boardscommittees/cab/correspondence.html](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/silverspring/boardscommittees/cab/correspondence.html)

**Seven Oaks Evanswood  
Citizens Association  
Silver Spring, Maryland  
www.soeca.org  
SOECA officers**

Jean Cavanaugh, President

Kathleen Samiy, Past President

Michael Gurwitz, Vice President

Tom Armstrong, Secretary

Bill Kaupert, Treasurer

**Resident volunteers**

Jonathan Bernstein,

Listserv & web site manager

**Contact SOECA:**

[soeca.board@gmail.com](mailto:soeca.board@gmail.com)

**Two ways to join SOECA's listserv:**

1) Via email:

- Send an email to [soeca-subscribe@yahoogleroups.com](mailto:soeca-subscribe@yahoogleroups.com) with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.
- The listserv moderator will email you asking for your name and address and will add you after you respond.
- You will receive a confirmation email from "YahooGroups."

2) If you have a Yahoo Groups account:

- Go to <http://groups.yahoo.com>, find SOECA, and click "Join this group."
- Fill in the form, including the email address you wish to use, adding a comment about yourself and why you would like to join, and click on "Join."
- The listserv moderator will email you asking for your name and address and will add you after you respond.
- You will receive a confirmation email from Yahoo.

Once you have joined, post messages by sending email to [soeca@egroups.com](mailto:soeca@egroups.com) or [soeca@yahoogleroups.com](mailto:soeca@yahoogleroups.com).

**SOECA membership 2013-14 Renew annual dues**

Send this slip plus \$20 annual dues per household (\$10 for seniors and single members) to:

**Bill Kaupert, SOECA Treasurer, 9222 Manchester Road, Silver Spring, MD 20901**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Work \_\_\_\_\_

Send an email to [soeca.board@gmail.com](mailto:soeca.board@gmail.com) if:

- You want to receive the newsletter electronically, or
- You want to check the status of your membership.

If you want to join the listserv, see the instructions above.

**Note: Resident email addresses, street addresses, and phone numbers are not shared.**