

Stratford Landing Citizens' Association Newsletter

Stratford Landing • Mount Vernon District • Fairfax County • October 2006

Saturday Halloween Parade Set

Camden Street to Close for Two Hours

Calling all goblins and ghouls, power rangers and princesses — SLCA is sponsoring a Halloween Parade and Festival to be held 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on **Saturday, October 21, 2006** at Stratford Landing Park.

This year we have obtained a permit to close Camden Street between Londonderry Road and Stirrup Lane from 3:00 pm to 5:00 p.m. for the parade. So get your costumes ready or dress up your stroller or wagon, cat or dog and meet us at 3 p.m. at the corner of Londonderry and Camden Streets, where the parade begins down Camden Street! If you don't want to dress up, please come on down and cheer for our residents!

Any original Stratford owners interested in serving as a Grand Marshall please call Tom Burgess at (703) 799-1218. After the parade, pumpkins will be made available for all to decorate, and there will be a moon bounce, music, some arts and crafts and games for the kids as well as cookies and juice for all to enjoy. We have contacted the Fairfax County Fire Department and they are willing to send a truck if available for the festival as well.

We are still looking for a few good volunteers — this could serve as community service for high school students who may want to meet community service requirements. If you want to help out, please contact Tara Quaadman at tntquaad@aol.com or Beth Bates at rbbates4@aol.com.

Hope you can join us!



Annual Meeting Set — Candidates' Night is a Go!

Candidates running for the U.S. House of Representatives will attend Stratford Landing's Candidate Night during the SLCA's annual meeting on Thursday, October 26. Participating are the incumbent, Rep. Tom Davis, (R-VA), Mr. Andrew Hurst, the Democratic Party of Virginia candidate, and Mr. Ferdinando Greco, Independent Green Party of Virginia.

The annual meeting check-in starts at 6:30 pm at Stratford Landing Elementary School cafeteria, Candidates night starts at 7:30 p.m. and ends at 7:55 p.m. Then, two votes are scheduled, one on the 2007 proposed SLCA budget and the next is a single vote for the election of the executive board. There are no contested races this year. At approximately 8:30 p.m., any old or new business can be offered.

The annual meeting is great opportunity to raise issues and let the executive board know what you think! Other means include calling or emailing the board members directly. For those with busy schedules, most of the business part of the meeting will be over around 8:45 p.m., so to every member — please come to the meeting!

Annual Dues are Late—Please Hurry and Pay Them

Mary Lou Hoffman reported that a large number of block captains have not turned in their collected dues to her. If you are a block captain, please collect the dues and turn them in as soon as possible. Members need to have their dues paid in order to attend and vote in the annual meeting for all members on Thursday, October 26, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. If you are a member and have not paid, please pay the \$10 dues to your block captain. If you're unsure who your block captain is, please call Mary Lou Hoffman at (703) 360-7267.

Web Site Getting on Members' Radar

Stratford Landing's new Web site, www.stratfordlanding.org, received its first usage reports for its first three months of operation, according to Charles Herrmann, our webmaster and chair of planning and zoning. While the numbers for the last half of September were projected by Cox, the first three months show that the Web site received 159 hits in its first month in July, 83 hits during August and an estimated 488 hits in September.

We also highly recommend that if you're interested in Stratford Landing crime information and crime prevention tips, please check our neighborhood watch Web site, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/StratfordLandingWatch/>. You can cut and paste this address into a browser bar, by going on the main Web site, look under "Notices" and it's in there. Just cut and paste!


Once you've seen both Websites, please place them in your Favorites links, and check them for crime information and news of our neighborhood that happens in between newsletters!

Pumping Station Walking Tour

SLCA members are invited to a walking tour of the pumping station lands on Saturday, October 21 from 10 a.m. until noon. The county is hosting this tour and a naturalist or two will be available to answer questions. Please meet at the gate to the pumping station at 10 a.m. and please do not park anywhere near the gate. Members are encouraged to walk there or may call any of the executive board members for a ride to the gate.

HOME SELLERS!
Selling a home in the Northern Virginia area? Call Elizabeth for her free special report, *29 Essential Tips That Get Homes Sold Fast (And For Top Dollar)*. It's critical reading if you want to get the highest return on your home sale. Call or e-mail Elizabeth to request your copy now!

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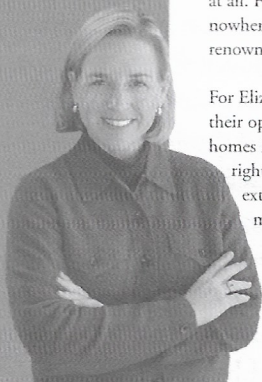


Go Big or Go Home

That's Realtor® Elizabeth Lucchesi's Motto.

No matter what Elizabeth Lucchesi is pursuing, it's her best effort or nothing at all. From life to business, Elizabeth's motto is "go big, or go home," and nowhere is this philosophy making a greater impact than in her career as a renowned real estate professional.

For Elizabeth, "going big" means working hard to ensure her clients maximize their opportunities and get big results. Whether she's helping sellers stage their homes in the most positive light or making sure her buyers find not only the right home, but the perfect neighborhood to fit their needs, she goes the extra mile to see that they achieve their goals. If you're looking to make a move, Elizabeth does what it takes to lead you to success. Call today!



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Candidates for SLCA Executive Board Office

Of the eight (8) elected positions on the executive board, one vacancy was created by the departure of Colonel Mike Avila, USA, the chair of the Community Improvements and Transportation Committee. One candidate for Mike's job filed for this chair before the September 15 deadline. Below is the Transportation Chair's candidate statement of interest.

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENTS AND TRANSPORTATION CHAIR

DON GRIFFIN, CANDIDATE — *My name is Donald Griffin and I seek your support for the office of Transportation Committee Member. My wife, Sydney Smith and our two children, Fred and Emily have lived in this wonderful community for over 12 years. Where I once felt like the "new kid on the block," the passage of time has given me some perspective on the issues facing Stratford Landing and the Mount Vernon area generally. The greatest transportation issue facing us is the expansion at Fort Belvoir which will challenge the capacity of our area's road network. As Transportation Committee Member, I will actively participate within the MVCCA to ensure that Stratford Landing's interests are represented as this area adapts to new transportation challenges.*

The other seven candidates for executive board positions were unopposed as of the candidate filing deadline on September 15. As such, there are no contested races for the eight (8) board member positions in the elections to be held on October 26, 2006.

Candidates for SLCA Executive Board October 26, 2006

President

Tom Burgess

Vice President

Jane Earley

Secretary

Linda Sweeney

Treasurer

Celia Boertlein

Community Improvements and Transportation

Don Griffin

Membership

Mary Lou Hoffman

Recreation (co-chairs)

Beth Bates and Tara Quaadman

Rules

Melissa Cramer

Proxy Form (For Absentee Voters on Oct. 26 SLCA Annual Meeting)

I _____, residing at _____

hereby grant my proxy to _____, for the sole

purpose of casting votes during the Stratford Landing Citizens' Association Annual

Meeting on Thursday evening, October 26, 2006.

Signed _____

NOTE: A member may carry in no more than three proxies and may cast their single vote and up to three proxy votes. Remember, only one vote per household!

Stratford Landing Citizens Association — Final Report 2006 & Budget 2007

Fiscal Year 2006 (Oct. 1, 2005 - Sept. 30, 2006)
 Fiscal Year 2007 (Oct. 1, 2006 - Sept. 30, 2007)

Report on 09/26/06

	Budgeted FY 2006	Actual FY 2006	Proposed FY 2007
Balance on Hand (Beginning of Period)	\$8,493.04	\$8,493.04	\$10,615.98
Receipts	\$6,500.00	\$10,765.00	\$10,400.00
Dues (Budgeted at 650 members @ \$10 each)	\$6,500.00	\$6,865.00	\$6,500.00
Advertising in the newsletter	\$0.00	\$3,700.00	\$3,900.00
Donation to offset costs of "Movie Night"	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00
Disbursements	\$10,350.00	\$9,703.53	\$13,725.00
Newsletter	\$3,350.00	\$4,245.30	\$4,500.00
Typesetting	\$650.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Printing	\$2,500.00	\$4,080.30	\$4,300.00
Delivery	\$200.00	\$165.00	\$200.00
Community Activities	\$3,750.00	\$3,028.45	\$4,710.00
Easter Egg Hunt	\$350.00	\$256.27	\$350.00
Halloween	\$400.00	\$219.53	\$600.00
Annual Meeting/Candidate's Night	\$250.00	\$174.26	\$250.00
Christmas Candy & Prizes	\$500.00	\$440.00	\$500.00
Springtime "Curb Appeal"	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Neighborhood Picnic/Gathering — "Movie Night"	\$1,000.00	\$1,292.24	\$1,360.00
Community History Event	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$200.00
Ancillary Committees (incl. Neighborhood Watch)	\$150.00	\$21.00	\$150.00
Sign Maintenance at Neighborhood Entrances	\$1,000.00	\$625.15	\$1,000.00
Waterway Maintenance	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$100.00
Membership Fees & Subscriptions	\$325.00	\$322.00	\$300.00
Fairfax Federation of Citizens Assoc.	\$50.00	\$80.00	\$50.00
Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Assoc.	\$250.00	\$102.00	\$150.00
Treasurer of Virginia (Corporation Reg.)	\$25.00	\$140.00	\$100.00
Contributions to Other Organizations	\$1,850.00	\$1,300.00	\$1,300.00
Mount Vernon Community Coalition	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Fort Hunt Youth Athletics	\$300.00	\$300.00	\$300.00
Fort Hunt Park Concerts	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
West Potomac High School Graduation Party	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Sandburg Middle School -- enrichment	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Fort Hunt Elementary -- enrichment	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Stratford Elementary -- enrichment	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Other discretionary contributions	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Other Expenses	\$1,075.00	\$807.78	\$2,915.00
Supplies	\$200.00	\$79.20	\$200.00
Signs for advertising events, etc.	\$200.00	\$253.58	\$250.00
Sweet List (duplication)	\$150.00	\$346.50	\$360.00
Directory (or Addendum)	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Bank Charges	\$25.00	\$0.00	\$25.00
Website development & maintenance	\$0.00	\$128.50	\$180.00
Directors & Officers Insurance	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,500.00
Balance at End of Period (Actual or Expected)	\$4,643.04	\$9,554.51	\$7,290.98

UCM Call for Volunteers

United Community Ministries' (UCM) youth at Janna Lee are looking for volunteer homework buddies/mentors for the 2006/2007 school year to partner with a child after school to assist with homework and strengthen reading skills. Hours available 3:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., pick your day(s) and timeframe.

UCM's Bryant Early Center (BEL) is in need of volunteers to assist with the infants and toddlers in the morning or afternoon; help to rock and feed infants, and also to assist with toddlers at playtime, lunch, other activities with children throughout the day.

The Sacramento Neighborhood Center is seeking volunteers 18 years or older to assist with SNC's after-school program. Hours 1 p.m. - 6 p.m. on Mondays and 3:30 p.m. -

5:30pm. Tuesday thru Friday. SNC already has prepared the activities but just needs someone to carry them out and assist with enriching what they have. They are also looking for a volunteer to assist their site director with the Computer Learning Center Partnership (CLCP).

For information on these volunteer opportunities please contact Betsy Damitz, UCM volunteer coordinator for the at 703-768-7106 ext. 328 or by email at volunteer@ucmagency.org



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Talk About ID Theft!

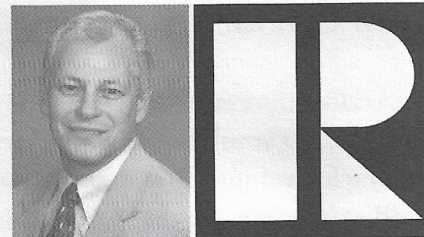
Recently, an SLCA member, who works as a real estate agent, complained that some unknown person used the agent's name, phone number and email address to file a complaint with the county against a neighbor for "unpermitted construction." The agent quickly contacted the neighbor to assure them that the agent had not filed any complaint. The county told the agent that they could not tell who submitted the complaint because it was made via the county's Web site, which is used to report various types of complaints. As it turns out, the county Web site form promises confidentiality, yet someone used the agent's name and other information in an allegedly fraudulent manner.

Folks: If you have an issue with a neighbor, please talk with the neighbor. If you feel intimidated about doing that, use the county Web site, but leave **your** name and information. The county does not disclose this information to those they inspect. This confidentiality feature is designed primarily for those who wish to report issues, but are concerned that they will be sued or harmed in some way.

**Blood Drive — Saturday,
December 2, 2006**

The next Stratford Landing blood drive is scheduled for Saturday, December 2 from 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at Mount Vernon Inova Hospital. You can make an appointment by calling 703.664.7229 or by filling out an online Blood Donation Appointment Request. Please contact Jack Shawn at (703) 780-4752 or wendell.shawn@cox.net for additional information.

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New Street Lights a Big Hit

Residents along the 2600 block of Stirrup Lane and those on the southwest end of Childs Lane seem pleased with their new colonial-style street lights that were installed by the county this summer. "Oh, they look great," said one Stirrup Lane resident. "I was surprised that the installers did so little disturbance of the land."

Other residents on Childs Lane, who earlier this year opted to not accept the street lights, have contacted the board and asked that the board contact the county about re-considering them for the new Colonial streetlight. That effort is underway; however, if easements that are necessary to the light installations are still not obtainable, then the county engineers advise that the lights will not be installed.

The board wished to thank all of those residents who are helping us fight crime by submitting their easements on time and those board members who participated in the long process of funding and installation of street lights, in particular, Mary Lou Hoffman (Monticello is next! We promise, Mary Lou!), former President Rick Edgerton and transportation chair, Mike Avila.

At the time the newsletter went to press, three more colonial street lights were being installed on Cotswold Court.