

Stratford Landing

Newsletter

#6 Timmons 10

Stratford Landing Mount Vernon District Fairfax County October 2008

Bi-Monthly Newsletter

BOO! It's time for the Halloween Parade and Festival! Page 2	Stratford Landing First Annual Fall Coffee Page 2	Candidate Biographies Pages 3-5	Halloween Face Painting, There's a New Coffee Shop in town, & Attention Dog Owners Page 5	Proxy for absentee voters Page 6	SLCA Appointed Committee Chairs Pages 6 & 7	Senior Programs, Blood drive, UCM Fundraiser, and Halloween Safety Tips Page 8
--	--	------------------------------------	--	-------------------------------------	--	---

SLCA Membership Drive

The SLCA Membership drive has been extended to October 10th. Please pay your \$10.00 dues to your block captain. The report from our Membership Chair shows that over one third of the neighborhood has not paid their \$10.00 dues. If you are unsure as to who your block captain is, please call Mary Lou Hoffman at (703) 360-7267. Remember to make all checks payable to the Stratford Landing Citizens' Association. Eligibility to vote at the SLCA annual meeting is limited to those households with dues paid, so please pay promptly. Block Captains please turn you collected dues into Mary Lou. Thank you!

SLCA Annual Meeting and Candidates Forum

The 2009 Stratford Landing Annual Meeting Agenda will be held in the cafeteria at the Stratford Landing Elementary School on the evening of Tuesday October 28, 2009. The Agenda is scheduled as follows:

Political Candidates forum (approximately 1 hour starting at 6:30 p.m.). Refreshments will be provided by the SLCA Recreation Committee. Visit www.stratfordlanding.org and the neighborhood signs for more information on political candidates. To promote better attendance at our meeting, additional tables for work areas located in the back will be set up for parents who need to bring

their children with them. The Stratford Landing Annual Meeting will begin at 7:45 p.m. The following votes will be on the agenda:

Vote 1—2009 Annual Budget (please see insert)

Vote 2—Candidates for SLCA. For more information about the SLCA candidates please see pages 3-5.

Of the eight elected positions on the executive committee, six incumbents are running for re-election.

Halloween is on a Friday this year. Do not start your trick-or-treat activities until dusk. If you are giving out treats, please make sure your walkway is well lit. Take a moment to review the Halloween Safety Tips on page 6! We wish everyone a safe and happy Halloween!

BOO! It's time for the Halloween Parade and Festival!

Calling all goblins and ghouls, Power Rangers and princesses—the Stratford Landing Citizens' Association is sponsoring a Halloween parade and festival to be held on Saturday October 25, 2008 at the Stratford Landing Park. Our rain date is Sunday, October 26, 2008. There will be a moon bounce, arts and craft projects, free popcorn, free refreshments and games galore! We will once again have a parade on Camden Street starting at the intersection of Cavendish and Stirrup Lane. The parade is scheduled to begin promptly at 2:30 p.m.

Get your costumes ready and dress up your stroller or wagon, cat, or dog and meet us at Cavendish and Camden by 2:15 p.m.

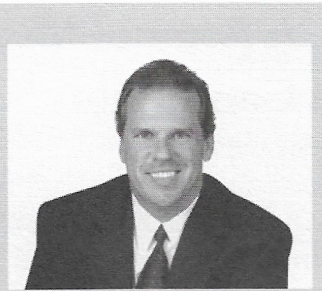
Get Acquainted With Your Neighbors at a Fall Coffee

Mark your calendars for the morning of Saturday, November 8th. Join your neighbors at the Stratford Landing Elementary School cafeteria for the First Annual SLCA Fall Coffee to be held from 9:00-11:00 a.m. The SLCA will provide drinks and paper products. Please bring food to share such as coffee cakes, quick breads, muffins and fruit. A few volunteers will be needed that morning beginning at 8:00 am to set-up. If you would like to help and/or if are interested in setting up a table with information for your neighbors, please contact Nancy Fondriest, Dana Deighton or Heather Westphal the new Co-Chairs for the SLCA Recreation Committee.

If you don't want to dress up, please come by and cheer for our residents!

If the Fairfax County Fire Department has a truck available, they will send one to lead our parade. The parade will end at Stratford Landing park where the festival will be held. It will last until 4:30 p.m. We are desperately in need of volunteers. This is also an excellent opportunity for high school students to fulfill community service requirements. If you would like to help or if you have any questions, please contact one of our new Co-Chairs of the SLCA Recreation Committee: Nancy Fondriest at nancy.fondriest@cox.net or by phone at (703)780-3625, or Dana Deighton at ddeighton@live.com or by phone at (703)799-0664, or Heather Westphal at hlw1421@yahoo.com or by phone at (703)360-5258.

Hope you can join us and we look forward to seeing you there!



Tom Pleimling

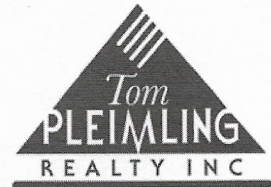
*Principal Broker
Top 1% Nationally in Sales
Your Neighborhood Realtor*

Tom Pleimling Realty, Inc.
1701 Belle View Blvd.
#B1
Alexandria, VA 22307
www.talk2tom.com
tom.pleimling@talk2tom.com

703-360-6300

"If you are thinking of making a move, contact me at your convenience. I'd be delighted to speak with you."

-Tom



How You'll Benefit By Hiring Tom Pleimling:

- ◆ Tom sells more Fort Hunt homes than any other individual real estate agent.
- ◆ Your home receives worldwide exposure on Tom's personal web domain at www.talk2tom.com and is advertised on Tom's 24-hour hotline, which gives buyers instant updates.
- ◆ Use of Tom's moving truck.
- ◆ You benefit from Tom's 23-years' experience and more than 1,400 homes sold.
- ◆ For more information, call Tom at 703-360-6300



Leah Chapla

703.929.4875 (cell phone & voice mail)
Stratford Homeowner Since 1985
"The Door Knocking Lady"
Retired Military Spouse
Senior Housing Specialist



In our rapidly changing world it is a difficult decision choosing a real estate agent whom you like & trust to represent and market your most valuable possession.

I take a personal interest in you and your home! I've been providing real estate information to every home in Stratford & Riverside since 1993.

Please call me for all of your real estate needs.

My marketing plan is designed to get your home sold, even in a challenging market. If you are purchasing a home, my efforts on your behalf, as a "buyer agent" will enable you to obtain a home, for which you qualify, with the best terms possible.

Interested in you & in marketing your home with Knowledge, Care & Integrity!



Old Town Historic District
400 King Street * Alexandria, VA 22314

2009 Candidates

President

Melissa Cramer, Incumbent: Melissa is an Alexandria Virginia native. She and her husband have lived in Stratford Landing since 2002. Melissa is a full-time mom to her two sons Gavin (4) and Griffin (1). She also owns and operates her own business in Old Town Alexandria. Prior to serving as the President in 2008, she represented the SLCA as the parliamentarian for two years and she represented the Consumer Affairs Committee for two years. She was responsible for maintaining the SLCA "Sweet-list" from 2005 until 2007. In addition to her activities with SLCA, Melissa volunteers for the Washington, DC, chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, she is the treasurer for the Good Shepherd Mothers' Support Group (continued)

Melissa is also the treasurer for the Parents Committee at St. Aiden's Day School on Riverside Drive. She is looking forward to working along side the incumbents and the new candidates in 2009.

Vice President

Charles Herrmann,

Incumbent: Charlie and his family have lived in Stratford Landing since 2005. Charlie and his wife Mary have two boys ages 4 and 2. They share their Cavendish Drive home with their 'Rappahannock Retriever' Elvis. Charlie joined the SLCA executive committee as the Planning and Zoning representative in

the Fall of 2005. There he served in that capacity for 2 years before serving as Vice President during the past year. In his professional life he is the vice president of an environmental consulting firm, which specializes in remediation, regulatory support and planning. In his free time, he enjoys playing soccer. Charlie is looking forward to working with everyone in Stratford Landing to enrich our community by responding to concerns and advancing ideas brought forward by members.

Transportation/ Community Improvements

Ken Pribyla, Incumbent: Ken is an independent defense consultant that has lived in Stratford Landing since November 1998 with his wife Carolyn, who is the Turbridge Lane block captain. Ken is a member of Good Shepherd Catholic Church, as well as a number of military and defense industry associations. Ken and Carolyn are the proud parents of two sons. Eric, who is a captain in the U.S. Army Infantry, and lives in Ft Riley, Kansas with his wife Chrissy and David lives in Brandon, Mississippi with his wife Kristin. The real joy in Ken and Carolyn's lives are their grandchildren: Nathan,

Rules

Ed Gonsalves, Incumbent: Ed and his family have lived in Stratford Landing for seven years. Ed is a trial attorney, specializing in medical malpractice litigation. Ed graduated from George Mason Law School in 1987 and completed his undergraduate work cum laude at Washington and Lee University. Ed sees the role of the chair of the Rules Committee and serving as

the parliamentarian as a very important part of a hard-working executive committee. It allows us to maintain and establish public confidence in the operations of the SLCA.

Recreation Co-Chair

Dana Deighton, Candidate: Dana is the marketing director for National Geographic Kids magazine. She's been with the Society for 15 years, working mostly on kid-related businesses. Dana has always been interested

in serving the community. Dana has served as PTA president, room mother, Little League assistant coach, and she is currently on the Stratford Landing Recreation Pool Demolition Committee. Dana is an Alexandria native and West Potomac graduate. She lives in Stratford Landing, with her husband, John, and their three kids, Erin (7), Brian (6), and Gabrielle (3).

Recreation Co-Chair

Nancy Fondriest, Candidate: Nancy and her family have been residents of the Mount Vernon area since 1995 and moved to Stratford Landing in December 2007. A former management consultant with Accenture, Nancy now enjoys being home with her boys and having more time to volunteer in the community. She served as moderator of the Good Shepherd Mother's Group, where she also coordinated the church's Breakfast with Santa and developed a popular family summer outing program to sites all over the DC area. Nancy spent a summer volunteering for local Delegate Kris Amundson researching legislation and helping constituents resolve problems. Nancy served as a founding board member and secretary for Uncommon Repertory, a community theater

group, and has enjoyed performing with other theater groups. She also served as the secretary of the board at St. Luke's Day School for three years. Nancy, her husband Rick and their boys, Jacob (age 10), Joseph (age 7) and Joshua (age 3) love spending time outdoors hiking and camping. She and her family have enjoyed the participating in the neighborhood events and wonderful sense of community they have found here. Nancy would welcome the opportunity to serve as Recreation Co-chair to help plan events for the coming year.

Recreation Co-Chair

Heather Westphal, Candidate: Heather is a native of Massachusetts who came to the DC area to attend Georgetown University, and stayed nearby when attending law school at

the University of Virginia. She has lived in the Mt. Vernon area since 2002, and moved to Stratford Landing with her family this year. She is an attorney at a firm in Washington D.C. working in the health care regulatory field. Having reduced her work schedule three years ago and is enjoying spending the extra time with husband (Jeff), and children (Daniel (3.5) and Lily (nearly 2) Heather is looking forward to becoming more involved in the community. Heather spent two years before law school recruiting and planning events for a law firm, and hopes to put those skills to good use as a Recreation Committee Co-Chair.

Secretary

Vacant: We will accept nominations from the floor at the annual meeting for this position.

(continued page 5)

Face Painting

Come by the Variety Store at the Hollin Hall Shopping Center on Friday October 31st., where Greta Gonzales (the face painter who volunteered her time at our Potluck Dinner last spring) will be showcasing her talents with her wonderful face painting from 2:00-7:00 p.m. for \$10-\$15 a face. 10% of the proceeds will be donated to the Grameen Foundation, a micro-loan lender who helps women and families around the world lift themselves out of poverty and achieve self sufficiency. Please visit www.gretagonzalez.com for more information.



If not, give us a call and we can make your landscape the envy of the neighborhood at a great price.

We specialize in residential Landscape Maintenance and Landscape Design and Installation projects.

B. RUSHING
LAWN AND LANDSCAPING
703-339-2044
www.b-rushing.com

Attention Stratford Landing Dog Owners

We are still receiving complaints of residents not keeping their dogs on a leash or cleaning up after them. Please be respectful of your fellow neighbors and use a leash when walking your dog and please always clean up after them. It is after all the law! Please visit our website for links and information about pet owner responsibilities.

Treasure

Celia Boertlein, Incumbent: Celia is a twenty-two-year resident of Stratford Landing and she has been a SLCA Block Captain for the past 9 years and the SLCA Treasurer for the past 5 years. In Celia's professional life she is a statistician-demographer with the Census Bureau. She has an undergraduate degree from University of Maryland and graduate degree from George Washington University. Celia is a Volunteer Coordinator for Good Shepherd Church's meal program at Christ House and a Volunteer Coordinator with the Reading Connection's Read-Aloud program at Mondloch House.

Celia and her husband Jack have two grown children, Neil and Lisa.

Membership

Mary Lou Hoffman, Incumbent: Mary Lou has been a Stratford Landing Resident for almost 40 years. She has served on the SLCA board as the membership chair for almost the entire time that she has lived in Stratford Landing. MaryLou also worked for the (SRA) Stratford Landing

Recreation Association for almost 30 years. MaryLou is an active member of the Garden Club, Kate Waller Barrett DAR, and the Stratford Landing Women's Club. She volunteers at the Mount Vernon Hospital and works the polls every election day. MaryLou has 5 children, 6 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren.

SPILL THE BEANS OPENS

We have a new coffee shop in town and I don't mean Old Town. Spill the Beans, now open, is a locally owned and operated coffee shop and chat house. Located at 1900 Elkin Street (Next to the 7-11) Spill the Beans is an Organic Coffee and Chat House that is open weekdays from 6:30 am until 5 p.m. and weekends from 9 am until 2 p.m. The light and bright atmosphere, healthy snacks and small stocked children's area makes it a great place for Stratford Landing Residents of all ages. Finally a place most of us can walk or bike to!

Proxy Form for Absentee Voters on October 28 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 Saturday, October 28, 2008.

Signed _____

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

SLCA Appointed Committee Chairs:

Education: Miriam Snedecor

Planning & Zoning: Chad Coneway

Public Safety (Neighborhood Watch):

Vacant

Consumer Affairs (Sweet List): Vacant

Health & Human Services: Jack Shawn & Michael Avila

Environment: Elizabeth Martin

HHS-Work Force Housing: Joan McLellan

Education

Miriam Snedecor became a Virginia resident in 2004 when she and her husband were stationed here by the U.S. Air Force. She became a Stratford Landing resident in 2006. Miriam is a full time mom to her two children, who attend Stratford Landing Elementary School. She has served in the Air Force and worked as a program management consultant for KPMG. Presently, she is serving as Stratford Landing's Education representative. Miriam teaches a second grade religious education class and is an active volunteer at Stratford Landing Elementary. Miriam is also an avid runner and enjoys helping anyone who wants to get in shape.

Planning & Zoning

Chad Coneway moved to to Stratford Landing with his wife and two sons in May of 2007. He works for Fairfax County Water as Senior Plant Engineer at their Corbalis Water Treatment Plant. Chad is a Navy veteran, completed his undergraduate work at the University of Texas and earned a Master's degree from George Washington University. He has served as Stratford Landing's Planning and Zoning representative since October 2007. Chad is looking forward to continuing to improve our community through our voice on the planning and zoning committee.

COLOR ■■■ CONCEPTS
PAINTING WOODWORK HANDYMAN

Int./Ext. Painting, Crown Moulding/Trim, Power Washing, Deck Sealing, Carpentry/Custom Woodwork, Drywall Repair/Handyman Services

703-765-6823

CALL GARY WOODS

Licensed and Insured - References Available

Health & Human Services

Jack Shawn and his wife Betty moved to Stratford Landing in 1964 where they raised 4 children and now have 4 grandchildren in the area. Jack began volunteering for Health & Human Services in 1988 and started the Stratford Landing Blood Drive in 1993. He is looking forward to seeing everyone at the next blood drive on Saturday December 6th at Mount Vernon Hospital.

Mike Avila along with his wife Ann and two children, moved to Stratford Landing in July of 2001. Mike retired last year from the U.S. Army and now works as a Department of Defense civilian at the Pentagon. He has worked on the SLCA committee before for two years as the transportation/ community improvement chairman. Mike is currently volunteering to assist Jack Shawn with Health and Human Services responsibilities as he attends to personal issues.

Environment and Recreation

Elizabeth Martin, Betsy has lived in Stratford Landing with her husband Paul Siegel since 1994. Since moving here, she has become increasingly interested and active on environmental issues, especially preservation and restoration of Little Hunting Creek. She is active in the Friends

of Little Hunting Creek, and organizes creek cleanups each year. She served on the Little Hunting Creek Steering Committee, a citizens' committee formed by Fairfax County to advise on the development of the Little Hunting Creek Watershed Plan to improve water quality in the creek and the Chesapeake Bay. She serves on the Fairfax County Wetlands Board, and is a certified Virginia Master Naturalist (Fairfax Chapter). Betsy retired in 2007 from the position of Senior Survey Methodologist at the U. S. Census Bureau, where she worked for 21 years. Since retiring, Betsy spends as much time as she can with her three her three grandchildren.

HSS-Workforce Housing

Joan McLellan has lived in Stratford Landing for 34 years. She is a member of Heritage Presbyterian Church and Ventures in Community. She has represented the Stratford Landing Citizens' Association on the Special Committee for Affordable & Workforce Housing of the MVCCA for two years.

Consumer Affairs

Vacant, The MVCCA Consumer Affairs Committee meets the first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Walt Whitman Middle School. Please contact Melissa Cramer at (703) 360-1687 if you are interested in volunteering for this position

Public Safety & Neighborhood Watch

Vacant, The Public Safety Committee meets the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at the Mount Vernon Government Center on Parkers Lane. Please contact Melissa Cramer at (703) 360-1687 if you are interested in volunteering for this position.

Special Thanks

We would like to extend a special thank you to Linda Sweeney who over the past several years has served as the SLCA Secretary. Thank you to Beth Bates and Tara Quaddman, our past recreation chairs, who did a wonderful job these past few years with upgrading existing neighborhood events and planning new traditions for the families of Stratford Landing. Thank you to Libby Romero, who designed our newsletter all of last year. Lastly, thank you to Allen Rubenstein, who over the past several years served as the Public Safety representative and neighborhood watch organizer. We wish each one of you the best. Thank you for your service and dedication to the residents and members of the SLCA.

Come out and support everyone who is volunteering for our community at the SLCA Annual Meeting, October 28th in the cafeteria of Stratford Landing Elementary School at 7:30 p.m.

The Mount Vernon SALT Council

The Mount Vernon SALT Council (Seniors And Law Enforcement Together) announces a series of programs on consumer affairs which began in September. The Council's purpose is two-fold: To focus on Crime and Security issues as they relate to the elderly, and an Advisory Council to the Fairfax County TRIAD. The upcoming programs are as follows: Tuesday October 28, 10:00 a.m, Identity Theft: How can we minimize our risks and Tuesday December 2, 10:00 a.m, What's in your credit report? The series will be hosted by the Hollin Hall Senior Center. It is free and open to the public. Reservations are required. Call (703) 765-4573 for information. Seniors are encouraged to attend.

Halloween Safety Tips

Always look both ways before crossing streets, cross in a crosswalk or at a corner. Do not talk to strangers and only go to homes of people you know and have porch lights on. Younger children should be with an adult and older ones should provide their route and when they expect to return home. Inspect your children's candy before they eat it. It's safest to eat only those candies that are individually wrapped and not homemade, unless you know the families who have prepared the homemade treats. Have flashlights or glow sticks for children and/or for the accompanying adult. Make sure your child's Halloween costume is made with fire retardant materials and has eye holes large enough for your child to safely see out of. The costume should be short enough so it doesn't interfere with walking. If your child carries an accessory, such as a fake sword, make sure it's made from a flexible material such as rubber, so it cannot injure your child or others. Dress in a costume that uses bright color or use reflective tape, so that you child is seen clearly by drivers and other families. Consider using makeup on children's faces instead of a mask to allow the child to see clearly. Have a safe Halloween!

Stratford Landing Blood Drive

Mark your calendars for the Stratford Landing Blood Drive on December 6th. at Mount Vernon Hospital. Please call Jack Shawn for more information at (703) 780-4752. We look forward to seeing you there!

Home for the Holidays at Collingwood Library & Museum on Americanism

Beginning November 14th. - 16th., the Friends of UCM will host a fundraising event for United Community Ministries that will transform Collingwood Library and Museum into a winter wonderland of creative holiday interiors by local vendors and designers Classics & Country, Helen Olivia, Insiders, Longwood Manor, Sande Carter and Two Swans. Door prizes will be drawn Friday evening and every hour on Saturday and Sunday. There will be tours of Collingwood mansion and the conference center. Grab a snack, shop for jewelry, clothing, art and decorations and have the opportunity to watch presentations from local artists and vendors. The schedule of event will be as follows: Preview Cocktail Party- Friday November 14, 6-9 p.m. \$75 per person (includes admission for the entire weekend). Saturday, Nov. 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., tickets \$15* and Sunday, Nov. 16, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., tickets \$15.00* Reservations and group sales please call: (703)785-3272 or Visit www.ucmagency.org for complete information on presenters, vendors & garden clubs.) For more information contact Gale Curcio at (202)256-5332 or alecurcio@cox.net.

**Tickets are \$10 if purchased at local businesses or from*

Sweet List

Have some you would like to add to the Sweet List? Please call Mary Lou Hoffman at (703) 360-7267 and look for your new copy in the December Newsletter.