



STRATFORD LANDING

Mount Vernon District, Fairfax County

Happy Spring!



Spring has sprung here in Stratford Landing—and just like the animals, we too are coming out of our winter hibernation.

Kids are out on their bikes again, so please watch your speed. The creek's waters are coming back to life, so help

keep it clean for another season. And if spring cleaning is on your list, don't miss the annual community yard sale. Read all this and more in this issue of the Stratford Landing Citizens Association newsletter—then come join us!

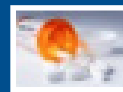
Slow Down in Stratford!

Remember, the Speed Limit is 25 MPH

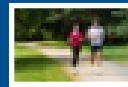
We share your pain. Washington traffic can be a beast, and many of us in the neighborhood have long commutes, too much to do and too little time. But please, please, please watch your speed limit as you're driving through the neighborhood. **Remember: The posted speed limit is 25 MPH.**

APRIL/MAY 2016

Upcoming Events



April 30, 2016
Fairfax Cty. Medicine Disposal
8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
FCPD Police Station
2511 Parkers Lane



May 7, 2016
Pantherlon 5K
8 a.m.
Carl Sandberg Middle School



May 21, 2016
SLCA Community Yard Sale
8 a.m. - Noon
Details coming soon!

Stay Connected



On the Web:
www.stratfordlanding.org



On Facebook:
Look for "Stratford Landing Citizens Association"

A Note From the SLCA President: What Makes a Great Neighborhood?

When I bought my home here in Stratford Landing three years ago, I had no idea that the original owner of my property was George Washington, nor did I know how close we were to Little Hunting Creek.

As I began to explore the neighborhood, I was pleasantly surprised to turn a corner discover that wonderful panorama along the water.

One day while out walking, I began to think about something that someone had said to me when I first moved here: "You will love it here. This is a great neighborhood!"

I asked myself: "What makes a neighborhood great?"

I was curious to see what the pros would have to say, so I Googled it. Listed were things like availability of good jobs, good schools and low crime. But the one thing that I saw consistently is that people want good neighbors and an opportunity to be engaged in their community. Communities thrive when they work together to help and care for one another.

Since I have become President of SLCA, I have begun to meet more people who live here and to see the things that people do each day that make a difference in where we live.

I think about the volunteers behind Friends of Little Hunting Creek and the Northern Virginia

Land Trust who have generously worked to preserve and maintain that wonderful area along the water for us all to enjoy, and I think of the neighbor who kindly hung up wreaths at the neighborhood entrance for the holidays.

I see members of the SLCA board who raise their hands and say, "I will do that."

I am thankful for the people who sit on the board, attend meetings of the MVCCA and report back to us about important issues facing our community and for our 70 block captains.

I think about the number of hours our communications volunteer put in on this newsletter and how our new treasurer has worked tirelessly since taking that office.

During our recent winter snow storms, residents volunteered to use their snow blowers to clear sidewalks on their block. When I put out a request for an elderly couple who needed help shoveling snow, I immediately heard from a neighbor of theirs who said he and his daughter were on their way.

We have people here who volunteer for neighborhood watch programs and help to run blood drives.

We have a new resident who has volunteered to take on the restoration of our entrance signs.



Kim Fairchild
SLCA President

Contact Kim via email at:
SLCANewPres2015@gmail.com

In this past membership drive, a number of people indicated they would be willing to help. I am grateful to all of them for their willingness to take on a task.

As I think through this list, I realize what the man who spoke to me when I first moved here was talking about. This is a great neighborhood. All of these efforts help to bring us together and create a place we are proud to call home.

My father has always said, "When you own a home, there is always something that needs to be done." It seems that that is the case with neighborhoods as well. There will always be issues that need our attention, someone who needs help or a park that needs tidying up.

So to all of you, I say thank you. I look forward to getting to know you as we plan, do and enjoy this "great neighborhood."



In Memoriam: Emily Corbin

A cherished Stratford Landing neighbor for 52 years

A novelist would have a best seller if the main character was Emily Corbin because each page would tell of an inspired life well lived.

Chapters would include the young Emily Preadable, born at Sibley Hospital in Washington D.C., active in the Boys Club, swim team, softball, ferry rides to Rehoboth Beach and falling in love with John R. Corbin—a neighbor, Golden Glove boxer and WWII parachutist.

Another key chapter follows her growth as a mother of five children, as a secretary with Eisenhower's Women's Division, as a secretary with the International Monetary Fund and as a legal secretary with Arent Fox Law Firm. From here segues the section on travel. Whether through work to Tibet and Hong Kong, with family to France and Spain and Italy or with friends to The Netherlands, Russia, and Poland and throughout the U.S., adventures and learning went with her.

The inspirational chapter would surround her friendships so important to Emily. Friends for life were from the Boys Club, Eastern High School, neighbors in Stratford Landing, bridge buddies, the Stratford Women's Club and tennis partners. Friends were drawn to her by her zest for life, humor, generosity and loyalty.

The closing chapter highlights her love of tennis beginning with lessons at Stratford Pool, her 52

years living on Stockton Pkwy. with the beautiful view of passing tides and seasons, walking her little dogs (Jovan and then Honey), and guiding her five Fort Hunt H.S. graduates: son John and daughters Kitty, Robin, Tracy and Erin. Her oil paintings, inspired by the Impressionist, abound in the homes of friends and family. This chapter cannot overlook her gifted love for theatre, music, dance and quest for learning.

An epilogue: We miss Emily, mom, Emmy, Em. She passed away on January 30, 2016 with family, music, words of love and gentle touches. The way she lived her life amazes and inspires us to follow her example of loving life, loyalty and generosity to friends, to laugh and to be generous of spirit.

- Lovingly submitted by Emily Corbin's family



Little Hunting Creek Spring Clean-Up: Saturday, April 16

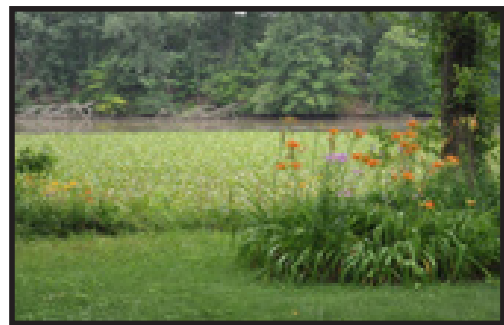
April's Little Hunting Creek cleanup had beautiful weather, and Friends of Little Hunting Creek hauled in *plenty* of trash. In Stratford Landing, **32 volunteers** working from canoes and kayaks and on land pulled out **53 bags of trash and recyclables** and **four tires**.

Seventeen additional cleanup sites were in Riverside Estates, First River Farms, Gum Springs and Colonel John R. Byers Park, including three cleaned up by teams coordinated by Senator Scott Surovell, Delegate Paul Krizek and volunteers on the west side of Route 1 on April 9, in snowy and miserable weather.

All told, **175 volunteers** hauled out **423 bags of trash and recyclables**, **29 tires**, **10 shopping carts**, and much else—including **one mannequin leg!** This year, **75%** of what was bagged was bottle litter (especially plastic water bottles) that should have been recycled before they ever got in the creek.

Thanks to all who turned out to participate in any of these efforts. We never get it all, but the creek sure looks better after we're done than before we started. Special thanks to Stratford Landing residents **Pat Paterson** and **Paul Siegel**, who led separate cleanup efforts on Stockton Parkway.

Remember: You can help protect this precious asset all year long by picking up trash and recyclables you see before they end up in the creek.



Neighborhood News & Notes

Save the Date:

Stratford Landing Neighborhood Yard Sale on Saturday, May 21

Doing some spring cleaning around your house? Your trash is another's treasure. Save the date for the community-wide yard sale, scheduled for Saturday, May 21 from 8 a.m. to noon. More details are coming soon. To volunteer to help, contact Becca Moller at beccamoller@gmail.com.

Calling All Photographers!

Submit Little Hunting Creek photos

Attention all shutterbugs! The team creating the new Stratford Landing neighborhood directory is accepting submissions of your best neighborhood photos for inclusion in the directory. To submit your photo, contact Debbie Davis at far2bike@gmail.com.

In the Dark?

Report Street Light Outages

Fairfax County Streetlights are maintained by either Dominion Virginia Power (DVP) or Northern Virginia Electrical Cooperative (NOVEC). The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) operates the streetlights along interstates and at major interchanges.

Dominion Virginia Power

Call 1-866-DOM-HELP (366-4357) TTY 711

When reporting an outage to Dominion Virginia Power or NOVEC, you will need to have the location of the pole and the pole number.

Trash Should Be Set Out Sunday Night

All trash should be set out on Sunday evening (no earlier) for Monday morning collection.

Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations: An Update from Your SLCA Delegates

One important function of the Stratford Landing Citizens Association is to represent our neighborhood within the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations. This nonpartisan organization brings together neighborhood representatives from the Mount Vernon District of Fairfax County to promote the common good of residents.

FINANCE COMMITTEE **SLCA Delegate: Scott Kopple**

Fairfax County Schools Budget Update: Advertised Tax Rate Would Leave Shortfall

A \$1.13 per \$100 of assessed value for the FY 2017 budget has been approved as the advertised tax rate by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (BOS). While four cents higher than the current FY 2016 rate, it would still not fully fund the requested schools budget. The advertised rate is in line with the County Executive's recommendation to the BOS, who has also provided guidance of a 3% transfer to FCPS.

However, the remaining 'cent' of the increase is essentially discretionary for the BOS to apply, if adopted, to other County services, but does not preclude closing the school's budget gap. Pending potential resources from the Virginia state budget, there will still be a shortfall, which according to Fairfax County Public Schools would still be in the \$50M - \$60M range.

The School Board will need to address whatever level of shortfalls over the next few months with final adoption on May 26, 2016.



EDUCATION COMMITTEE **SLCA Delegate: Carol Horn**

Several Area Schools Begin Plans for Renovations

The Education Committee was on FCPS demographics, by race, free and reduced lunches, etc. FPCS increases by 2,500 new students every year. Schools get renovated every 37 years; several in our area are (or will soon be) undergoing renovation. In the spring there will be meetings about school attendance boundaries. Hybla Valley is still overcrowded. Mount Vernon and Westfield are the largest high schools in the county. There will be renovations at West Potomac.

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE **SLCA Delegate: Betsy Martin**

Huntington Levee Design Nearly Complete; Will Feature a New Trail

The Environment and Recreation Committee heard a presentation about the Huntington levee. A \$30 million bond was approved several years ago, and the design is almost complete. Construction will occur in 2017 and will cost more than \$30 million. A trail will be established on top.

SLCA Committee Updates

Get more details and contact information at www.stratfordlanding.org

SAFETY

Chair: OPEN POSITION

Fairfax County Police Department Crime Mapping Tool Lets You Stay Informed About Local Incidents

The Fairfax County Police Department’s new Crime Mapping tool lets you see local incidents in real time.

www.fairfaxcounty.gov/policeevent

This link will allow you to enter in a given address, a radius, a date range and your choice of events. Once you hit search, you can see if there is any crime happening around the address you entered. This works for all of Fairfax County.

Safely Dispose of Old Medication on April 30

Fairfax County Police Department is hosting a Medication Disposal Day for residents to safely get rid of old, unused or expired medication. Just drop yours off at the Mount Vernon District Station (2511 Parkers Lane) between 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. on April 30.

Walking in the Dark? Let Drivers See You

When you’re taking that early morning walk or biking home from the bus stop after dark, please remember that motorists cannot always see you. Please wear reflective clothing or illuminate your bike with lights so others can see you. Likewise, drivers, be on the lookout for walkers and bikers on neighborhood roads during dark hours.

Keep House and Car Doors Locked

Our neighborhood is not immune from theft. Always remember to keep your windows and doors locked (especially when you are not at home) and keep valuables—including bikes--out of clear sight. So many thefts are “crimes of opportunity.” Let’s not give would-be thieves the opportunity!

Helmets Required for Cyclists Under Age 15

Keep your kids safe this summer. Remember that in Virginia, helmets are required for cyclists under age 15.

COMMUNICATIONS

Chair: Jennifer Bridgman

Stay Connected with SLCA All Year Long

To stay on top of the latest news from SLCA:

- **Join us on Facebook** (look for “Stratford Landing Citizens Association”) to find real-time updates, news and information from power outage updates to lost dogs to event photos.
- **Visit our web site** (www.stratfordlanding.org)

DIRECTORY (MEMBERSHIP)

Lead: Debbie Davis

Coming in 2016: SLCA Member Directory

In 2016, work will begin on the eagerly anticipated SLCA Membership Directory. As in past years, this small printed book will include the name, address and phone number of all members in good standing who give their consent to be included. It’s a great way to stay in touch with neighbors. If you’d like to help, contact Debbie Davis (far2bike@gmail.com).

SOCIAL/RECREATION

Chair: Becca Moller

The weather is warming up, and that means more opportunity to get outside and meet your neighbors.

If you’d like to volunteer to help with neighborhood events, contact Becca Moller at beccamoller@gmail.com.

Snapshots from Around the Neighborhood

Christmas & Holiday Season in Stratford

Santa Claus paid a special visit to Stratford Landing on the back of a Fairfax County fire truck this past December.

Congratulations to the following neighbors who were honored

- Best at Night:** 8439 Porter
- Best Overall:** 2406 Londonderry
- Best Kids' Display:** 2217 Creek
- Best Daytime Display:** 8818 Camden

Special thanks to Stratford Landing resident **Victoria Sanchez**, owner of the Old Town Alexandria-based home decorating firm Victoria Sanchez at Home, for serving as our judge.



Stratford Landing Easter Egg Hunt

Thanks to all the young—and young at heart—neighbors who came out for an early Easter celebration. The Stratford Landing annual tradition featured games, prizes, crafts and a friendly Easter egg hunt.

If you would like to help with neighborhood events like these, contact Becca Moller, Chair of the Social/ Recreation Committee, at beccamoller@gmail.com or Kim Fairchild, SLCA President, at SLCAnewpres2015@gmail.com.



Meet Your 2016 SCLA Executive Board

Executive Board

President: Kim Fairchild
SLCAnewpres2015@gmail.com

Vice President: Jody Nyalko
jnyalko@verizon.net
(703) 360-8350

Treasurer: Celia Boertlein
cboertlein@aol.com
(703) 360-3735

Secretary: Claire Kluskens
birdlady2011@icloud.com
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Parliamentarian: Keith Kettell
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(703) 704-5438

Immediate Past President:
Rob Maher
rob@mortgagefool.com
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SLCA Committees

Communications: Jennifer Bridgman
(202) 641-8840

Membership:
Jennifer Bridgman (*JLKrempin@gmail.com*)
Leah Chapla (*leah.chapla@longandfoster.com*)
Terri Maloney (*T2maloney@aol.com*)
Jody Nyalko (*jnyalko@verizon.net*)
Debbie Davis (*far2bike@gmail.com*)
Mary Lou Hoffman (703) 360-7267

Recreation/Social: Rebecca Levine Moller
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Transportation/Community Improvements:
John Horn
john.horn3@gmail.com
(703) 360-9015

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Consumer Affairs: Terri Maloney
T2maloney@aol.com - (703) 780-3454

Education: Carol Horn
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Environment/Recreation: Betsy Martin
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Finance: Scott Kopple
skopple@verizon.net - (703) 864-3218

Health/Human Services:
OPEN POSITION

Planning/Zoning: Leah Chapla
leah.chapla@longandfoster.com
(703) 929-4875

Public Safety:
OPEN POSITION

The Stratford Landing Citizens Association Newsletter is published bimonthly for members in good standing. Stratford Landing Citizens Association is a not-for-profit, volunteer-led organization committed to enhancing the quality of life in the neighborhood.



Stratford Landing Citizens Association
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