

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

January Issue 2012

Seven Oaks Evanswood



CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION
SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND

Presentations: Tuesday, January 31, 2012 7:30 pm

Meeting Location: Springvale Terrace 8505 Springvale Rd.

TOPIC: SILVER SPRING 'SENIOR VILLAGE' IS COMING

Roberta Gosier, an SOECA resident, will present "The Downtown Silver Spring Senior Village." An 'aging in place' grassroots organization who help people remain independent in their own homes when ordinary maintenance and management tasks become too difficult or unsafe. www.DSSSVillage.org, rgosier@earthlink.net. See inside for more information on the Senior Village

Phyllis Courlander of Top Banana, a home delivery grocery service for seniors will also present. Top Banana started in 1982 with a mission of making sure no one's family member would need to go without food or dignity simply because they couldn't get to the grocery store. www.topbananagrocer.org

Mark Gottlieb, Administrator of Springvale Terrace will provide information on the Retirement Community. At Springvale Terrace, a person can rent an apartment and live independently, and if and when help is needed, can sign up to receive personal care and even medication management services.

Happy New Year 2012!

2011 was an active calendar year. We held 5 resident meetings with a range of presenters and topics, plus we held 3 precedent setting social events (a wine tasting, block party, and a holiday party.) Special thanks to the SOECA Board, active Chelsea Task Force volunteers, the List Serve Manager, Block Captains, Watch Captains, Newsletter Distributors, Membership List Managers, and Treasurers. We are an all volunteer civic association that supports each other, neighbor to neighbor, street to street, block by block, from downtown Silver Spring's Central Business District throughout the green hills and valleys of homes in our part of the Sligo Creek watershed all the way to Franklin Avenue.

Please consider joining for only \$20./year dues (\$10./seniors). Dues help with printing of newsletters and nominal costs to run events. We welcome your participation in the interests and causes that surround us, they help make this a great community and a special place to live and cherish.

Membership form on the back. Please join us at a meeting.

MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, January 31

7:30 — 9 pm

Location:

Springvale Retirement Home, Blue Room

(Entrance on Springvale Road)

7:30 Welcome & Greetings

7:35 Presentations/Speakers

Roberta Gosier

Downtown Silver Spring Senior Village (DSSSV)

Phyllis Courlander,

Top Banana

Mark Gottlieb

Springvale Retirement Home

Reports & Updates

- Chelsea School Task Force

Business Meeting

- Membership Report
- Treasurer's Report
- New Business
- Approval of Nov. 7, Minutes

SOECA boundaries include:
Colesville Road/RT 29 on the West,
Cedar and Fenton Streets on the
South, Bonifant and Wayne, on
the East, and Franklin & Caroline
Avenues on the North.

**www.soeca.org | email:
soeca.board@gmail.com**

SOECA November 7, 2011 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Kathleen Samiy at 7:40 pm at the Silver Spring Library.

Reemberto Rodriguez, Director of the Silver Spring Regional Services Center, gave a brief overview of some of his and the Center's activities aimed at making Silver Spring a more robust community such as connecting people with the County's existing resources, fostering connections between the police and Safe Silver Spring or between DTSS and Silver Spring Green, providing links to ongoing developments, and distributing calendars of community engagement opportunities. He then responded to questions on a number of topics: the status of the Transit Center, the current library, and the new library; coordination with the Peterson Company [owners of DTSS]; and what's happening with downtown commercial space.

Chelsea School Rezoning: Anne Spielberg gave a brief update on the Chelsea rezoning situation. The County Council, acting as the District Council, agreed with the Hearing Examiner and sent the matter back to her and to the Planning Board, stipulating that some type of townhouse zoning would be adopted. EYA, the developer, will propose a revised plan, and it will be considered by the Planning Board, the Hearing Examiner, and the District Council as before. Kathleen presented a

Good Neighbor award to Anne and the Chelsea Task Force members. A brief discussion of fundraising possibilities to pay for legal counsel and expert testimony followed.

Neighborhood Watch: David Hartman reported on the activities of the Safe Silver Spring and Neighborhood Watch. Crime in Silver Spring, both downtown and overall, has dropped in the last year. The opening of the Fillmore has not caused any major problems. Neighborhood Watch is simmering, but it is hard to put together a list of block captains.

First Baptist Church: Carolyn Michell described the accommodation between the developer and the civics, ESSCA and SOECA. The civics will support the developer's application for a Zoning Text Amendment before the Council, and in exchange, the developer has modified the design, including lower building heights on the side facing into the neighborhood, and a paseo, courtyard, and playground as a buffer. ESSCA also negotiated a \$20k escrow fund so if the developers do not adhere to the plan, the civics have the resources to sue.

Treasurer's Report: Bill Kaupert reported on the checking (\$6923.36 as of 10/30) and CD (\$2224.81; maturity 11/12; 0.03% interest) balances.

Update on the Chelsea rezoning

After the County Council rejected EYA's original rezoning application on October 18, 2011, EYA submitted a revised plan in December/January, to build 63 townhouses on the Chelsea School property, with traffic access directly onto Springvale Road. In significant respects, the revised plan does not address the issues that were to be addressed in this second round of the process, including protection of the full 1.4 acre historic Riggs Thompson property, construction of a less dense and massive development in keeping with our neighborhood, and avoidance of cut through traffic. SOECA will be continuing to protect the interests of our neighborhood by participating in the upcoming Planning Board hearing on January 26, the Hearing Examiner hearing scheduled for March 23, and any subsequent hearing before the County Council.

To defend our community, SOECA has successfully raised and spent almost \$20,000 to pay for attorneys and experts. We have minimized our costs by receiving discounts and by using hundreds of hours of volunteer time from members of our community. In this next phase of our fight, we will continue to incur fees and are seeking to raise an additional \$10,000-\$15,000 to assure the EYA development is compatible with our neighborhood and to protect against future high impact developments inside our borders. If every member of the community contributes to this effort, we can easily achieve our goal. While this process is expensive, it is critical that we all step up and preserve the neighborhood we value and enjoy. Please be as generous as you can be and send your contributions to Kristen Conte, 615 Pershing Drive, Silver Spring 20901. Checks should be made out to SOECA, and should have

"Chelsea School Rezoning" on the memo line. If you have questions about the Chelsea rezoning or wish to become more involved, please email Anne Spielberg, aspiegelberg@harmoncurran.com.

Chelsea School Task Force, Financial Statements

Balance Sheet As of 12/31/2011, the Chelsea School Task Force ("the Fund") had \$2,705 in cash in SOECA's account. Statement of Cash flows The Fund had \$980 in cash in SOECA's account as of the end of the day on December 13, 2011. \$1,725 was deposited on December 27, 2011, leaving cash in SOECA's account of \$2,705 as of December 31, 2011. Statement of Activities As of year end, the Fund owed \$6,412.54 in outstanding invoices.

Reporting Upstream Water Pollution Made Easier.

The Montgomery County's Department of Environmental Protection and the Friends of Sligo Creek have made it easier to report possible pollution in Sligo Creek, the Bennington Tributary and other nearby waterways. Whenever you see possible pollution on your daily walks or drives, just report the problem (the visuals, any odor, the location) to ReportSligoPollution@fosc.org. Take a picture, too. FOSC has created this email alias, which will dispatch your report to DEP's Steve Martin and his team.

Neighborhood Deer Culling. The Montgomery Council's Public Safety Committee will have an update on deer management efforts, Thursday, January 26th at 9:30 a.m. It is the first item on the agenda. The meeting will be held in the Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville. It might be useful to send copies of letters setting out views to Committee members Phil Andrews, Roger Berliner and Marc Elrich.

Downtown Silver Spring Senior Village, by Roberta Gosier, rgosier@earthlink.net.

Perhaps you've heard about the growing phenomenon of "senior villages." Do you know that we may soon have our own? Across the U.S., in the D.C. Metro area, and right here in close-in Silver Spring, the village movement is powered by the popular wish to "age in place" – and by evidence that villages can help people fulfill that wish.

A village is a grassroots organization created for the purpose of helping people remain independent in their own homes when ordinary home maintenance and management tasks become too difficult or unsafe. Villages come in all sizes and shapes. Most rely very heavily on volunteers from within the same community. Some are intergenerational and some for seniors only. Most villages charge an annual membership fee to help cover the costs of operation, programs, insurance, etc.

Over the past year, a small group of Silver Spring residents has been working to establish the Downtown Silver Spring Senior Village (DSSSV). As currently envisioned, this village will consist of an organized network of volunteers, public and commercial resources, and professionals, plus systems for matching services and referrals to the "villagers" who need them. One of the key services will be help with transportation, provided either by volunteer drivers or through a partnership with an existing community resource. DSSSV also expects to sponsor different types of social and recreational activities to help keep people engaged and active. Other services will probably include help with grocery shopping, a "check-in" service, minor home repairs, help with computers and home electronics, and possibly more.

DSSSV planners are currently working with representatives of other villages and relevant community organizations to develop plans, build interest, and identify

local resources. The results of an ongoing survey (see below) will be used to help describe DSSSV's potential members and the particular types of services that they need and want. Like most other villages in Maryland and elsewhere, DSSSV intends to be established as a tax-exempt, nonprofit organization and, as such, eligible to receive tax-exempt donations and grants.

Membership in DSSSV will be open to seniors living in or near the 20910 zip code, including all of Seven Oaks/Evanswood, as well as approximately 10 other neighborhoods. Membership dues (amount to be determined) will be as low as possible, to help ensure that village membership reflects the demographic and economic diversity of close-in Silver Spring, and to make membership benefits widely available.

In addition to potential members, DSSSV planners are interested in identifying potential volunteers. Ideally, this will include a lively mix of young and not-so-young individuals, who have a little (or a lot) of time to share helping their neighbors. In addition, planners hope to secure services, financial support, and in-kind contributions from local businesses and organizations.

The estimated "opening" date for DSSSV is Spring 2013. If you are interested in helping with the remaining planning and organizational work, there is plenty of opportunity for fun and rewarding involvement. No particular expertise is required (but fundraising skills and familiarity with the law related to nonprofits would be really great!).

If you have questions about DSSSV, would like more information, or if you are interested in getting involved in some way, please feel free to contact Roberta Gosier directly at: rgosier@earthlink.net.

Looking for a Senior Apartment Community, at a Rate You Can't Afford to Miss?

By Mark Gottlieb, mgottlieb@seaburyresources.org

Situated only a few blocks from the revitalized downtown Silver Spring, Springvale Terrace offers comfortable apartments along with housekeeping, laundry, nutritious meals and ongoing activities and educational programs. Springvale is a non-profit residence open to persons of all faiths, backgrounds, and incomes. We are located close by to shopping, restaurants, movies, the new Civic Center, the soon to be built new library, and Metro.

At Springvale Terrace, a person can rent an apartment and live independently, and if and when help is needed, can sign up to receive personal care and even medication management services. Should yet additional help be needed, we offer a 36 unit assisted living community as well right on the premises. As such, we are able to assist people to "age in place" for many years.

Springvale Terrace offers 24 hour, seven day a week concierge services; a security system; an extensive activities program; ongoing continuing education on a range of

topics relevant to seniors of all ages; a full-time Services Coordinator who assists our residents with a wide array of needs and issues. and an emergency call system. Nursing personnel are also on the premises at all times should assistance be necessary.

Springvale Terrace has been a community residence for forty six years, and a significant number of our residents have lived here for well over ten years (and several for twenty or more years).

Call either Lisa Letren or Mark Gottlieb for further information and to schedule a tour at 301-587-0190. We would be delighted to assist you!

Mark Gottlieb, Administrator
 SPRINGVALE TERRACE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY
 8505 Springvale Road, Silver Spring, MD 20910
 Phone: 301-587-0190, Fax: 301-588-1126
mgottlieb@seaburyresources.org,
www.springvalleterrace.com

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

SOECA Officers

Kathleen Samiy, President
Mark Gabriele, Past-President
Vicky Warren, Vice-President
Carolyn Michell, Vice-President
Tom Armstrong, Secretary
Bill Kaupert, Treasurer

Resident Volunteers

Jean Cavanaugh, PrezCo Liaison
Jonathan Bernstein,
List Serve & Website Manager
Charles Wolff, SOECA Historian

Contact SOECA:
soeca.board@gmail.com

TWO WAYS TO JOIN SOECA'S LISTSERV:

(1) Via email

- A) Send an e-mail to: soeca-subscribe@yahoogroups.com with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.
- B) The ListServ moderator will email you asking for your name and address by response email, adding you after you respond.
- C) You will then receive a confirmation e-mail from "YahooGroups."

(2) Via Yahoo Groups at <http://groups.yahoo.com/>

(Use this method, if you already have a Yahoo account set up)

- A) Find SOECA and click "Join this Group."
- B) Fill in the form, including the email address you wish to use, adding a comment about yourself and why you would like to join the group. Click on "Join."
- C) The ListServ moderator will email you asking for your name and address by a personal response email adding you after you respond.
- D) You will then receive a confirmation e-mail from "YahooGroups."

Once you have joined...Post messages to the community by sending an e-mail to: soeca@egroups.com or soeca@yahoogroups.com

SOECA Membership 2011_ Renew Annual Dues

Send this slip plus \$20 annual household dues (\$10 for senior citizens and single members) to:
Bill Kaupert, SOECA Treasurer, 9222 Manchester Road, Silver Spring, MD 20901 (not 20910) 301-585-3385

Name: _____ Today's Date: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: Home) _____ Cell) _____ Work) _____

Would you like to receive the SOECA newsletter by: Email? Printed ? Both? (circle choices)

If by email, please print email address here: _____

Are you registered on the SOECA Yahoo Groups List Serve? Yes No (please circle one)

Would you like to receive SOECA Board e-communication? Yes No (please circle one)
If yes, please print email address here: _____

NOTE: Resident email addresses, street and phone numbers are held in strict confidence, they are not shared.

SOECA January 2012, Issue 3

Seven Oaks Evanswood
Citizen's Association
Silver Spring, MD 20910