



# The Lamplighter

Sleepy Hollow Woods Civic Association



DECEMBER 2018 VOL. 4, NO. 3

WWW.SLEEPYHOLLOWWOODS.ORG

## A Message from the President

Seasons Greetings Neighbors,

As Winter quickly approaches, we take a short break of Sleepy Hollow Woods Civic Association (SHWCA)



events and enjoy the holidays before ramping up in the New Year. As a recap of the past few months, Fall is often the busiest time on the SHWCA calendar and cannot be accomplished without the help of many contributors. Thank you to the extraordinary effort of our membership coordinators and all block captains for another successful 2018 Membership Drive! The membership drive provides revenue for many expenses and activities, including: our Neighborhood Watch Program, The Lamplighter newsletter, our yard sales and picnic, entrance maintenance, and social activities. Please look out for the 2019 Community Directory in the coming weeks. We also had a great turnout at the Oktoberfest celebration this year! A very special thank you to Charles and Debra Becker for preparing

and cooking all of the bratwursts (Again!). I am already looking forward to next year. Upcoming 2019 events and activities will be communicated via sleepynet and the website in the coming months. On behalf of the SHWCA Executive Committee and Officers, have a safe and happy holiday season!

**Mike Wisniewski**  
**SHWCA President**

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## A Big Round of Applause Please.....

We owe a debt of gratitude to our block captains who tirelessly knocked on your doors to collect annual membership dues for our civic association and information for publication in our directory. The effort would not have been possible without the help of the following dedicated volunteers: Alicia Abarca, Leslie Bailey, Barbara Boots, Lara Bogle, Joe Burrus, Ann Cartright, Phil Centini, Jim Councilor, Nancy Donahue, Skip Dye, Christy Fase, Kathleen

Garces-Foley, John Gilmore, Kathye Hamilton, Laura Hinshaw, Cindy Hyder, Madeline Lawson, Amy Miller, Courtenay Pekkala, Tara Rethore, Susan Ronkainen, Beth Schreiner, Dara Singh, Mary Stapchuck, Kim Stephens, Sally Storr, George Utting, Donna Vasilakos, Flora Wack, Raquel Wampouille and Jessica Wisniewski. Some folks are new, some are veterans, but their help provides the glue that holds the civic association together. We are **APPLAUSE CONTINUED PAGE 2**

**APPLAUSE FROM PAGE 1**

also very grateful for the help of Patricia Petersky for being the block captain coordinator who collected all 33 packets from the block captains, to Paul Przedpelski for printing and distribution assistance, to Bob Schreiner for painstakingly proofreading drafts, to Tom Boots for obtaining company sponsors for advertising, to Beth Schreiner for her capable handling of banking duties, and Lillie Tobash for coordinating the publishing. The 2019 directory will be delivered to each home in December.



## SHW Holiday Decorations Contest is Back

As you search Christmas tree lots and visit the shopping malls looking for the perfect yuletide decorations this month, don't overlook the opportunity to help make Sleepy Hollow Woods a very festive-looking neighborhood through the holiday period. Again this year, the SHWCA will be sponsoring a contest for the most attractive outdoor decorations. An anonymous panel of judges comprised of SHWCA members appointed by our association's president will be cruising through the Woods some starlit night after December 14 to determine the winning displays. One criterion certainly will be creativity, others might be simplicity or subtlety, while yet another might be artistic

impression. The judges will also try not to select repeat winners, although the most outstanding displays definitely will not be ignored. In any case, consistent with our tradition, 1st place and 2nd place winners will be chosen, along with two honorable mention medalists. The prizes will be accordingly, gift certificates worth \$50, \$30, and (two) \$10. Winners will be announced via Sleepynet before Christmas Eve. So, as the holiday spirit comes over you, let it be reflected in attractive exterior displays that will please your neighbors, our entire community, and, of course, our unbiased contest judges. Season's Greetings and Happy New Year to all!

## Cleaning Up After the Holidays

There is an easy option for unloading your unwanted items before and after the holiday's via the Fairfax County Special Trash Pick-Up. County residents are allowed five collections per fiscal year (July 1 - June 30) as part of your annual trash service. The County website has guidelines for what is permitted and how to prepare for pick-up. For more information or to schedule a special pick up, go to [https:// special pickup.fairfaxcounty.gov](https://specialpickup.fairfaxcounty.gov) or call (703) 802-3322, TTY 771 to schedule a brush, bulk, metal or refrigerant (coolant) collection. Thank you for helping keep our community clean!

## Looking for Volunteers

Do you have the knack for entertaining? Are you the type that likes to organize and lead? Or do you prefer offering assistance but not overseeing a project? Are you more social or business minded? Whatever your talents might be, there are always opportunities to get involved with the Sleepy Hollow Woods Civic Association (SHWCA). As we get closer to the New Year, why not make volunteering in the association one of your New Year's resolutions. To discuss participating on committees, or how to run for a leadership position on the SHWCA ExCom, contact Mike Wisniewski at [mikewisniewski9@gmail.com](mailto:mikewisniewski9@gmail.com) or call 703-967-0096.

# *Happy Holidays*

## 7 Tips to Prevent Holiday Package Theft

The Lamplighter is published by the Sleepy Hollow Woods Civic Association (SHWCA)

### SHWCA OFFICERS (2018-2019)

- Mike Wisniewski.....President
- Charles Becker.....1<sup>st</sup> Vice President
- Todd Moulder.....2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President
- Beth Schreiner.....Treasurer
- Debra Becker.....Secretary
- Tim Koczanski.....Past President
- Tom Boots.....Advertising
- Lou Wack.....Archivist
- Jim Councilor.....Covenants
- Tobash/Petersky.....Directory
- Barry & Phil Centini.....Hospitality
- Tobash/Koczanski.....Lamplighter
- Koczanski/Suziedelis-Bogle.....Website
- Don Johnson.....Neighborhood Watch
- Beth Schreiner.....Sleepynet
- Open.....Social

### FOLLOW US



Like us on Facebook  
(SleepyHollowWoods)



Follow us on twitter  
(@SHW\_CA)

*Like to write? Have something you want to share with the community?*

Comments, articles, and letters are welcome. Please contact Lillie Tobash for the deadline. Editor reserves the right to edit submissions.

There are lots of online sales everywhere you look and we've all been clicking away to have holiday gifts sent to our homes. Unfortunately, every year our Police Department receives reports of stolen mail packages from around the county at apartments, townhomes and single family homes. Here are important safety tips to help ensure you receive everything you order this holiday season:

- #1: Signatures** -Require a signature upon delivery. If you can't be home, consider sending your item to a friend's home, if they can be available to sign.
- #2:Workplace Delivery**-Have the item delivered to your workplace, if permitted.
- #3: Pick Up Packages**-Some vendors now have package pick-up locations; you have to go there to get your item but it is securely stored. Select in-store pickup versus shipping. You may save on shipping fees by picking up the item yourself! You also can have the package delivered or held at a

- carrier location, like a UPS or FedEx facility.
  - #4: Track Deliveries**-Closely track your deliveries. Know exactly which day and around what time it'll arrive. Many carriers offer text and e-mail notifications.
  - #5: High Tech Monitoring**- Use a wireless door monitor that allows you to see your porch. Many services include a wi-fi-enabled camera and motion sensors so you can record video of any activity and speak remotely to visitors at your door
  - #6: Provide Delivery Instructions**- Asking a driver to put your package in a more inconspicuous location around your home may reduce the likelihood of it being seen and stolen
  - #7: Ask a Neighbor**-Keep an eye on your neighbor's home or ask a neighbor to watch for your deliveries. If you're acquainted enough, you could hold the package in your home; or notify your neighbor their package has arrived if you have their phone number or e-mail.
- Source:** <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news2/7-tips-to-prevent-holiday-package-theft/>

### SHW News Briefs

**SleepyNet** –Sleepynet, SHWCA's email distribution list, is one of the best ways to get information on community happenings as well as notifications. If you are not currently receiving Sleepynet emails and would like to receive them, please contact Beth Schreiner at bobeth@cox.net to get added.

**SAVE THE DATE** – Neighborhood Realtors Lillie Tobash and Kim Grutzik are sponsoring a 123 Junk Truck at 3908 Forest Grove Dr., on March 16, 2019, from 10 - 11 am. Residents can drop off items they no longer want or need that can be recycled and 123 Junk will donate the items that are dropped off. Bulk trash items will not be accepted at this event. More details to follow in Sleepynet.

**VDOT is Ready for Snow this Winter**-The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) is ready for snow season with plow-tracking technology, expanded monitor program, and a one-stop shop for online resources that is available for residents to use. Visit [www.virginiadot.org/novaemergency](http://www.virginiadot.org/novaemergency) to access all of VDOT's online information resources, including important messages and update.

# Sleepy Hollow Woods Market Report



Lillie Tobash 703.625.4675  
Kim Grutzik 703.851.3942  
We live in the Neighborhood



Status	Address	Style	List Price	Close Price	Subsidy	Close Date	BR	BA	DOM
Closed	3807 Forest Grove	Split level	\$675,000	\$655,000		23-Nov-18	4	3	82
Closed	3910 Forest Grove	Colonial	\$2,600	\$2,500		19-Nov-18	4	3	61
Closed	3806 Tall Oak	Split level	\$3,100	\$2,950		1-Nov-18	3	3	70
Pending	3919 Meas	Rancher	\$599,000			28-Dec-18	5	3	18
Pending	3920 Forest Grove	Split level	\$645,000			5-Nov-18	4	2.5	62

Data is for the last 30 days

Source: Metropolitan Regional Information System, Inc. Information indicated to be accurate but should not be relied upon without verification. Information original to the system may be out of the date. If a property is currently listed with a broker, this report indicates a historical listing.



## Sleepy Hollow Woods Civic Association (SHWCA)

The Civic Association is a successful and worthwhile activity. If you are not a member, please join! If you are a member, come to the meetings, meet your neighbors, volunteer a little time, and help make Sleepy Hollow Woods an even better place to live.

The Civic Association is a volunteer organization. It was established to protect and benefit the residents of Sleepy Hollow Woods. For a small annual fee, residents can join the association. The association prints an annual directory of members and additionally provides a wealth of other useful information. In order to help defray the cost of publishing the directory, advertisements in the directory are accepted.

**Our main functions:** Represent the community in various Fairfax County related matters; Publish and distribute the annual directory; Sponsor various community and social activities; Coordinate and provide information to residents through newsletters and other means; Maintain the entrances and sponsor neighborhood improvement projects; Provide a forum for discussion of local issues; Sponsor the Neighborhood Watch Program; and Encourage compliance with the covenant.