



# The Lamplighter

Sleepy Hollow Woods Civic Association



DECEMBER 2020 VOL. 6, NO. 2

WWW.SLEEPYHOLLOWWOODS.ORG

## A Message from the President

Greetings Neighbors,

Happy Holidays! I hope this special time of year finds you and your family safe and in good health. Although things are a bit socially distant this year, it is a great time to reflect on the importance of our friends and family. I hope this also extends to our extended neighborhood family and I hope we can get to know each other better in 2021. With a vaccine already being administered, I expect we will start getting back to normal by summer and we can kick off with the largest picnic we have had in several years, possibly in May or June.



As for the SHWCA, we have kept the organization in caretaker status since the pandemic has begun. Although we haven't had meetings, we have worked to keep the entrances maintained and some of our committee work functioning. The Neighborhood Watch teams have continued their great work, remaining vigilant to keep our community safe. The Architectural Committee has advised those expanding homes or updating properties to ensure the character of area is maintained.

Also, our dedicated team of volunteers has been tirelessly working to publish the Lamplighter and the Directory. We also managed to coordinate some food trucks last summer and we had volunteers coordinate a safe trick-or-treating and cookie exchange. We also managed to conduct a socially distant Membership Drive to avoid unnecessary risk to our community. Although we had some success, our participation was down roughly 70 households this year, likely due to the inability to engage face-to-face. If you haven't joined the Association, I ask you please consider doing so. As we aren't an HOA, joining is completely voluntary, but critical to continue the work of the

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## It's Still Not to Late to Join SHWCA

The final days of our membership drive have passed, and disappointingly, fewer than one fourth of our annual members have not joined. Please bear in mind that the dues go toward our recurring expenses—entrance maintenance and gas lanterns, Lamplighter printing and mailing expenses, P.O box rental, SHW website, community sponsored events, and our very useful neighborhood directory. While COVID 19 wreaked havoc with many of our community

events this past year, we are hopeful that we will once again be able to host events in the future, when it is safe to do so. While the Directory has been printed and will be delivered in the upcoming weeks, we do allow for open enrollment in our membership. If you have not yet joined, please consider doing so. The membership form can be downloaded from the [www.sleepyhollowwoods.org](http://www.sleepyhollowwoods.org)

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## LATE FROM PAGE 1

website and the form can be mailed to: SHWCA, P.O. Box 384, Annandale, 22003, or dropped off at 6722 Rosewood. A special thanks to those that have joined for the upcoming year; hopefully, we will be back to doing the collections in person next year.



## MESSAGE FROM PAGE 1

Association. The very small fee of \$30 annually makes a big impact. The bulk of the funds goes to maintaining the community entrances. This pays for mowing, mulching, leaf removal, landscaping, painting and repair of the stonework and signs, and maintenance and operation of the gas lamps. The dues also pay for the Annual Picnic, which is free to the entire SHW community, and subsidize, if necessary, Oktoberfest and the Wine and Cheese Social. We are also looking at new family-oriented events once the pandemic is over. It's never too late to join. If you haven't, the membership form is attached to this e-mail. If it makes it easier in this busy time of year, complete it, place it in your mailbox, and send me an e-mail at becker58703@yahoo.com and I will pick it up. The success of the

Association depends on you.

Finally, it's time to announce the winners of the SHWCA Holiday Decoration Contest (another event funded by membership). This year our volunteer judges declared First Place to a group effort on the cul-de-sac at 6800, 6802, 6804, 6806 Murray Lane. You can't miss it. Second Place goes to 6815 Murray Lane, and Honorable Mentions go to 6724 Rosewood Street and 6848 Murray Lane. They will be receiving their gift cards shortly. Thanks to the judges and I hope you can get out and enjoy all the decorations in the neighborhood. Most of all, on behalf of the SHWCA Executive Committee, I wish everyone a joyous Holiday Season and look forward to seeing you around the Woods in the New Year.

Charles Becker  
**SHWCA President**

## Cleaning Up After the Holidays

There is an easy option for unloading your unwanted items before and after the holidays 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://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 Charles Becker at becker58703@yahoo.com

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

## SHWCA OFFICERS (2020-2021)

Charles Becker.....President  
Patricia Petersky.....1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Beth Schreiner.....Treasurer  
Debra Becker.....Secretary  
Mike Wisniewski.....Past President  
Tom Boots.....Advertising  
Lou Wack.....Archivist  
Jim Councilor.....Covenants  
Kim Grutzik.....Directory  
Kim Grutzik.....Hospitality  
Tim 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.

## 7 Tips to Prevent Package Theft

There are lots of online sales everywhere you look and we've all been clicking away during this pandemic to have items sent to our homes. Unfortunately, our Police Department has received 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:

**#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.

## 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.

**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 updates.

## Sleepy Hollow Woods Market Report



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Sleepy Hollow Woods Experts

Status	Address	Style	List Price	Close Price	Subsidy	Close Date	BR	BA	DOM
C/S	3705 Sprucedale Dr	Rambler	\$720,000				4	3	
A/C	6807 Capstan Dr	Bi-Level	\$629,999				4	2.5	58
CLS	6812 Rosewood St	Split	\$645,000	\$610,000		30-Nov-20	4	2.5	22
CLS	3807 Ivydale Dr	Rambler	\$675,000	\$705,000		12-Nov-20	4	3	6
CLS	6721 Fern Ln	Bi-Level	\$765,000	\$765,000		5-Aug-20	4	3	0
CLS	6819 Murray Ln	Rambler	\$749,990	\$781,000		11-Nov-20	4	3.5	4
CLS	4000 Oak Hill Dr	Colonial	\$798,500	\$790,000		25-Aug-20	4	3.5	17

Data is for  
last 180 days

Source: Bright MLS. Information believed to be accurate but should not be relied upon without verification. Information obtained is not the exclusive listings of the agent. If your property is currently listed with a broker, this is not intended to be a solicitation of that 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.