

**NEXT MEETING OF SOSCA:**

**7:30pm**

**Thursday, January 22, 2009**

**Home of Dennis Lucarelli**

**801 Colby Avenue**

**Takoma Park**

For more information, contact Dennis at [prez@southofsligo.org](mailto:prez@southofsligo.org)

***Join SOSCA. Be Heard!***

**Takoma Park** is a wonderful community in which to live, work, play and raise a family. But even the most responsive cities need involved citizens to make government function at its best. That's where SOSCA comes in.

SOSCA acts as an advocate for residents on issues of local concern with the city and other governmental agencies, and seeks to foster a neighborly spirit by sponsoring events and publishing a newsletter and membership directory.

SOSCA is the largest neighborhood association in Takoma Park, with approximately 600 families. Everyone is invited to SOSCA meetings and events.

Anyone may join our e-mail list at [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SOSCA\\_announcements](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SOSCA_announcements), and all families in the neighborhood receive SOSCA newsletters. Only families who have paid dues receive the membership directory, and are listed in it if they choose.

By joining, you will be helping us to continue to print the SOSCA newsletter and additional flyers, and to issue a membership directory. SOSCA also makes annual contributions to our local elementary schools, Piney Branch and Takoma Elementary and may contribute to other community groups from time to time.

***SOSCA Membership Form***

*Enclosed please find:*

\$5.00 Here is the SOSCA dues for myself and my household.

SOSCA is extra special, so here's a little extra to help keep it that way.

My contribution to help the kids at Piney Branch and Takoma Park Elementary Schools.

Total

*Make checks payable to SOSCA. Mail with this form to:*

*Scott Gilkeson, SOSCA Treasurer, 830 Hayward Ave, Takoma Park, MD 20912*

Names (adults only)	E-mail	Street Address	Phone
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1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

How do you want to be listed in the SOSCA directory?

List all information above

Do not list me/us at all

Do not list phone number

Do not list email address(es)

I would like to get more involved in SOSCA, please contact me directly.

January, 2009

**Planning a neighborhood event?  
SOSCA can help with \$\$.**

**SOSCA** neighborhoods often hold indoor get-togethers, out-of-doors block parties, green space clean-ups, and many other events that demonstrate we love living in our communities and enjoy the company of our neighbors. If you and your neighbors are planning such an event, SOSCA would like to help with the financing to the tune of \$100 to \$200.

For more information, contact SOSCA President Dennis Lucarelli at [prez@southofsligo.org](mailto:prez@southofsligo.org).



SCENES FROM THE 20TH ANNUAL COLBY BLOCK PARTY. IT MIGHT SOUND TRITE, BUT IT'S TRUE: A GOOD TIME WAS HAD BY ALL.

**January 11: Voice your opinion!  
Meet State Legislators**

**There will be a community meeting** with the members of the District 20 state legislative delegation

**4-6 pm, Sunday, January 11, 2009  
in the Council Chambers of the  
Takoma Park Community Center.**

Expected to participate are: Senator Jamie Raskin and Delegates Sheila Hixson, Heather Mizeur and Tom Hucker.

Each will speak for a few minutes about State matters of interest to folks in Takoma Park and about the 2009 legislative season, which opens in January. Then there will be an open question and answer session and a discussion.

The program is organized by the Westmoreland Area Community Organization (WACO) and the Old Town Residents' Association (OTRA) and is being cosponsored by, among others, the South of Sligo Citizens Association (SOSCA), the SS Carroll Neighborhood Association, and Historic Takoma.

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## Wow! Check out the new Jackson-Boyd park

by Mary Dalrymple

The new park at Jackson and Boyd Avenues has been completed.

Check it out!

Children can scramble over new play equip-

ment and spin on a tire swing.

One play structure lets kids climb stairs or a "rock wall" to two slides and a lookout platform, complete with telescope. There are also a rocking motorcycle and sidecar, a tot swing, and a geometric climbing web.

There are also new picnic tables for parents and other visitors under a shade pavilion and several new benches.

Pedestrians can tread a walking path encircling the park.

The city gardener has been given an \$8,000 budget to fill the space with new landscaping, including trees and shrubs this fall and new perennials next spring.

### Treasurer's Report - 2008

We began 2008 with \$1,203.70 in our bank account. The current balance is \$1,003.70, after contributing \$100 to the 2007 and 2008 Forest Park neighborhood parties. There have been no receipts in 2008.

Scott Gilkeson, Treasurer



**SOSCA, the South of Sligo Creek Association, includes the area bounded by Sligo Creek on the north, Jackson Avenue on the west, Prince Georges and Woodland Avenues on the south, and New Hampshire Avenue on the east.**

Website:

<http://www.SOUTHOFSLIGO.ORG/>

Announcements:

[http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/SOSCA\\_announcements/](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/SOSCA_announcements/)

Discussions:

[http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/SOSCA\\_discussion/](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/SOSCA_discussion/)

President: **Dennis Lucarelli** Treasurer: **Scott Gilkeson** Vacant: **Vice President, Secretary**  
Newsletter editor: **Larry Rubin**

## Pets lost, pets found

by Robin Siegel

Volunteer, Montgomery County Humane Society  
pennyroyalnorwich@yahoo.com

I am a volunteer for the Montgomery County Humane Society.

For two years I have used neighborhood Yahoo Groups to contact folks who might be able to help reunite pets and their owners. You've probably seen my posts to the SOSCA list. I use about 200 listservs to monitor for lost pets, post information, and to post notices about animals found in the area.

Every day, I get a list of stray pets that were received at the shelter the previous day, along with the locations where they were found. I take those locations and compare them with over 400 listservs, volunteers, and pet services (vets, groomers, etc.) to determine which fall into the same area as each pet that was found.

I then send out an announcement to those groups and volunteers, spreading the word that a lost pet was found nearby and asking if they have any idea who the owner

**Montgomery County Humane Society**  
**240-773-5960**

<http://www.mchumane.org/>

might be. I have found a surprising number of owners this way, mostly thanks to members of local listservs.

I also keep an eye on about 100 listservs to see if neighbors have found or lost pets. (A colleague and I also monitor Craigslist, Petfinder.com, Petharbor.com, and several other online boards.)

And I keep a list of suggestions, which I send to anyone posting a lost or found pet, to help them in their search to reunite them. Here is some of the information that I e-mail to them:

As soon as you lose or find a pet in Montgomery County, file a report with the county shelter (the Montgomery County Humane Society). Call them at 240-773-5960 to



register your report. If you encounter waits on the phone, go to their website at <http://www.mchumane.org/> and click on Programs and Services>Lost & Found Animals. You'll see the links to the lost and found forms, and you can e-mail them a photo to be clipped to your report. They will search the reports already on file (and the animals at the shelter) and tell you if they have a match. Shelter staff will match your report if they can, but you will always be better able to recognize a match, so visit the shelter as often as you can during the business hours listed on their website. MCHS holds stray animals for 6 business days and then puts them up for adoption.

To file and search for other reports, go to the Washington Post and the Gazette classified ads, and online resources such as <http://washingtondc.craigslist.org/laf/> and <http://www.petfinder.com/>. Post flyers, talk to your vets, mail and paper carriers, and post on the SOSCA neighborhood listserv.

You can follow what's at the shelter on a daily basis by going to <http://www.petharbor.com/> and checking Montgomery County Humane Society (be sure it's the one in Maryland!).

For more ideas, go to <http://www.metropets.org/How2help/losttips.php> [http://www.hsus.org/pets/pet\\_care/finding\\_a\\_lost\\_pet.html](http://www.hsus.org/pets/pet_care/finding_a_lost_pet.html)

Finally, it's always advisable to have your pets microchipped, even those you don't think will ever get loose. Your vet can help you learn more about microchipping.