



NEWSLETTER

Straford Landing • Mt. Vernon District • Fairfax County

It has been a busy and productive month. Take the time to read through this and the attached Teen News. A small number of your neighbors are doing an awful lot of work which, in one way or another, directly or indirectly, benefits you specifically. Perhaps you will find sufficient stimulation to give us a hand.



SKATING RINKS

Much work is required to maintain the one rink which we made operational right on schedule. It must be scraped and swept and holes filled and hundreds of gallons of water must be pumped in. The Fire Department has helped. The County Park Authority's assistance has been outstanding. (It is their **ONLY** man-made rink in the entire County.) **TWO MORE RINKS ARE GOING IN.** One will be for use by adults and families and a third and largest for use by the Teen Club when required. Only sufficient thawing of the ground to permit bulldozer work awaits completion of the other two rinks. Their conversion into summer time roller skating rinks is now being planned. Hundreds and hundreds of your children are using the rink. I hope you are pleased. It is another project, self-generated, which has come to fruition.

HELP!

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Let's face facts. You and your children benefit from the rink. It's no fun in almost zero weather to be out there each and every night getting the rink ready for the next day. Without the invaluable nightly help of Ray Cannon, also Chuck Cook, Milt Arneson, Cort Taylor, Ed O'Callaghan, Dave Venezky, Hank Ward, Jim Glenn, and George Hemminger there would be no rink. Having previously asked for help and having received only skimpy responses, the Executive Board is now asking that you contribute financially. The Teen Club boys who are helping cannot be expected to do this hard work each night without some sort of pay. Hence we are now paying the boys \$1.50 an hour for their work. The \$200 which was authorized to be spent on the rink will be needed for equipment purchases, etc. The Executive Board of Riverside Gardens Civic Association whose residents also use the rink have been asked for monetary contributions. We ask: If you like the fact that we have this community service-- if you have members of your family who are utilizing or plan to utilize the rinks, will you make out a small check for anything you feel you'd like to contribute and send or give it to Barbara Hower, our Treasurer. (8711 Camden Street) The money will be separately administered and will give employment to your teen-age sons who volunteer to work each night and weekends for pay.

DIRECTORY

Almost a month late, your directory should accompany this newsletter. Do you know how much work went into it? Procurement of ads, layouts, gathering information, repeated trips to the printers, assemblage distribution, etc.? Please look at the map in the back of the directory. We believe this scaled map is about the best, most reliable and up to date cartography ever available, and beats the one in the older book. Will you please examine the book for content, general information, community services, and the like. **SHOULD THERE BE ANY ERRORS IN YOUR LISTING, SPELLING, ADDRESS, TELEPHONE NUMBER, ETC., PLEASE CONTACT JANE BUSH, 780-2857, and note the errors. Also, any additions and deletions are desired. We will be coming out with an errata sheet very soon.**

CONCERT

Last year, when we sponsored it, the first major cultural event in the Mt. Vernon District took place and was a success. We are now sponsoring the second annual Winter Concert by the Fairfax County Symphony Concert in the Mt. Vernon District at Fort Hunt High School on Monday night, March 2d at 8:00 P.M. This is exclusively our show. The chorus of Ft. Hunt and West Springfield High School will perform Schubert's Mass, Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony will be the featured work along with two other shorter pieces. Expose your children to 90 minutes of classical music--it is part of our heritage--support bringing cultural events into our district. Enjoy yourself--tickets will cost only \$1.50 for adults and 75 cents for students. The cultural committee will be called upon to reactivate itself next week--won't you show your interest and join it now to help plan and run it? Listen to WGMS at 2:00 P.M. each Thursday during February - we have taped some shows which will be aired then. An announcer from WGMS will serve as narrator for the concert, and some distinguished visitors have been invited to attend. We continue to try to better the lives of our community residents. Support is all that's asked.

ASSOC'N MEETING

The next quarterly meeting of the Association will be held Thursday night, February 20th at 8:00 P.M. at the Stratford Landing Elementary School. It'll be the first since elections last October. There hasn't been a meeting attended by fewer than about 200 residents since mid-'68. There will be entertainment, refreshments, the meeting will follow a prescribed agenda, full committee and progress reports will be furnished and a featured program on one of the most important and current problems facing us with guest experts is scheduled. We continue to fulfill our commitments and come through on the things we plan for. Your attendance at this quarterly meeting is urgently requested. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend now!

PUBLIC SAFETY

Our last newsletter carried considerable data on what had been occurring in our community. Its publication caused a veritable avalanche of residents calling in to report additional incidents. With the cold weather and the return to school, who knows--perhaps even because of the newsletter, the incident rate, as reported to us at least, has taken a very considerable drop to almost total tranquility. Let's keep it that way! In the interim, the District Public Safety Committee is at work researching to arrive at a recommended ordinance for the Board of Supervisors curbing excessive noise created by non-factory issued mufflers. We continue to urgently request you call 780-9388 to report any and all incidents in the community so that we may have knowledge of all matters which justify our requests for support from the County Police Department.

MTVERNON MARKET

Remember our fight to prevent rezoning of the beat up old Mt. Vernon Market across from the Atlantic Gas Station on Elkin which presently blots the corner? We fought and won that battle and now, I am authorized to inform you, that the market will be torn down and that single family dwellings will be going up!

BUS SERVICE

Attached for your information is a detailed schedule and related parking data on the newly instituted bus express service. We purposely did not pass out the flyers earlier because we wanted you to wait before using the service until the kinks are ironed out. This is what is happening now. The bus to the Pentagon will be converted into an express service not stopping after it once leaves Ft. Hunt Road. The two stops within Alexandria that the other two buses make will also be eliminated, IF the buses are filled as they leave Ft. Hunt Road.

BURMA ROAD

The road is now being maintained by the County while awaiting completion in the Spring. Please ascertain that your family does not utilize it as a place to dump.

MAIL DROP

As promised, the Post Office Department has installed its express pick-up nozzle type box on the corner of Londonderry and Elkin. We thank the Department for giving us another chance and we assume that our mail drop troubles are passed.

STREET MAINTENANCE

Trees create a traffic hazard in marring vision going onto Elkin from Wittington. They will be removed. Holes on the pavement within Londonderry and where it merges into Elkin have been noted and will be repaired. Childs, Cavendish, Camden, Blakiston are but some of the community roads which badly need smoothing, etc. In conjunction with the Resident Engineer's office, Va. State Highway Dept, a concerted effort to have all of the community roads upgraded, at one time, in early summer has begun and will be carried through until completion.

SKATE EXCHANGE

NEED skates? Have skates but not using them? Have skates which don't fit? Skates are in short supply and expensive - Saturday the 24th of January at the skating rink at 1:00 P.M. sharp - that's the place to be to participate in the skate exchange - Keep the date in mind - whether the rink is operating that date or not - the date and the time are firm - be there - bring your skates or bring your money and let's accommodate each other. This is another service for your benefit - don't forget the date!

WELCOME!

A sincere and hearty welcome is extended to the new residents of our area who have moved into the Yeonas Homes. This is their first issue of the Newsletter and we encourage all of them to become active in our Association, their first year's membership having been given them by Yeonas and us. Please contact Kay Gray, our Membership Committee Chairman on 780-1917 for any questions or information you may wish serviced. Your block captain will be calling on you very soon. All other newly arrived residents are urged to contact Kay for membership data, community information and inclusion in the directory.

WELCOME!

WINNERS

Pete has refused to let us publish the name of the winner of the Christmas decorating contest - anyhow, congratulations to the other following winners in their categories! Your efforts enhanced our community and recognition is well deserved.

The judges labored and disagreed for three hours before selecting the following winners:

2nd Place - Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Connelly
8441 Porter Lane

3rd Place - Mr. and Mrs. L. Popka
8418 Wendell

Congratulations to all winners and other homeowners! All decorations were beautiful, and we (the judges) enjoyed really "checking out" the neighborhood.

My many thanks to judges Dottie Vogt, Betty Shawn, Jack King and John Tracy, and particular thanks to Shirley Faulkner who made the ribboned pinettes designating the winners.

Santa hopes his trip through the neighborhood next year will be more timely and uneventful.

This year he was plagued by many delays, but finally got through the neighborhood on a fire engine and Pete's car. The kids all seemed to enjoy it, however, as did Santa and his helpers. Santa seemed happiest when the engine rushed away to a fire!

THANKS JANE

Based on her consent and realizing how much needs to be done, Jane Bush has consented to being appointed to the Executive Board as an executive coordinator. Jane's efforts as past membership committee chairman, compiling data for the directory, assisting in newsletter dissemination and numerous other tasks which she has undertaken on your and our behalf, make her an invaluable addition to the Board.

PARENTS!

On the 4th of February, a Wednesday night, at 8:00 P.M., the Stratford Teen Club will be holding its first elections under the constitution which is being disseminated with their Teen News this time. PARENTS: This Teen Club is a primary and major means established by us to give YOUR sons and daughters a sense of belonging, responsibilities and organized fun - car rallies, dances, beach and ski parties, etc.,

community projects are just part of it. PLEASE ENCOURAGE YOUR TEENS TO ATTEND THE MEETING. As the nominating committee looks for candidates to run for offices, encourage your teens to run for office. If they are not yet members, encourage them to join the night of the meeting. It's the same old story once again - all this is being done for you - they are your teens - SUPPORT US!

JOBS

Please make sure that your teenage boys read the Teen newsletter to find out how they can apply for skating rink maintenance jobs.

Mt. Vernon Council

Mae Stone is our new Association representative on the Education Committee of the Mt. Vernon Council of Citizens Association. Pete is chairman of the Council Public Safety Committee, John McAleer represents us on the Council Transportation Committee. We are not represented on the Council Health and Welfare Committee. This group is highly effective. To a large part its years of long work gave us our Hospital, etc., Mental Health Services in this District, and many other related health and welfare items are their concern.

Why not call Pete and offer your services to work on this most important task representing us. Each committee representative becomes a voting member of our executive board.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash balance as of 14 December 1969	\$ 689.44
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Receipts:	
Cash from late dues	\$ 6.00

TOTAL CASH

\$ 695.44

Disbursements:

Mt. Vernon Volunteer Fire	\$20.00
Dept. -- services as Santa Claus and for ice skating rink	

Cash on hand as of 13 January 1970

\$ 675.44

Funds in Savings Accounts

\$2000.00

TOTAL ASSETS

\$2675.44

Pete Brinitzer
PRESIDENT 780-9388

Ed O'Callaghan
VICE-PRESIDENT 780-9420

Nancy Shafer
SECRETARY 780-8914

Lou Denit
RECREATION 780-1052

Key Gray
MEMBERSHIP 780-1917

Barbara Hower
TREASURER 780-4587

David Bryant
RULES 780-4537

John McAleer
COMM. IMPROVEMENTS 780-8455

Jane Bush
EXEC. COORDINATOR 780-2857

Mae Stone
EDUCATION COMM. REP.
MT. VERNON COUNCIL 780-4597

OTHER ORG NEWS

STRATFORD RECREATION ASSOCIATION is proposing an expansion program which would increase its membership by 100 families and construct a second swimming pool (to be available for the summer season). For the convenience of new members, a deferred payment plan is available to finance the membership cost of \$400, with payments spread over 6, 12, or 18 months. For further information or to reserve your membership, please call one of the following board members by 25 January 1970:

John Bentley 780-1591
Robert T. Gray 780-1917

Bettye O'Callaghan 780-9420
Pete Gerlach 780-2732

Norman A. Hawkinson
PRESIDENT

FORT HUNT HIGH SCHOOL BAND PARENTS ASSOCIATION

On February 24, at 8:30 P. M. the Fort Hunt High School Band Parents Association will sponsor a performance of Lillian Hellman's "Toys in the Attic," as presented by the Little Theater of Alexandria at its Wolfe Street playhouse. The uniform fund will benefit. Miss Hellman, long one of the theater's outstanding playwrights, is well known for such plays as "The Little Foxes", "Another Part of the Forest", "The Searching Wind", and "The Autumn Garden", as well as her first critical and commercial success, "The Children's Hour". In "Toys in the Attic" the playwright is concerned with the survivors of a once-proud Southern family--two spinster sisters, reduced to menial employment, and their younger spendthrift brother. The brother, after an absence of several years, has just returned to the family's New Orleans home, with his bride. Miss Hellman reveals the weaknesses of her characters by skillfully portraying their neurotic behavior--the jealousy and possessiveness of the dotting sisters, the deceit and trickery of the wastrel brother, and the deranged helplessness of the childish bride. "Toys in the Attic" is an absorbing and effective account of people who can love only those they possess.

(For additional information and tickets, call Dick Murray, 765-7251.)

PERSONAL ITEMS

BABY SITTING CLUB:

Would you like to have a FREE baby-sitter? Stratford Landing has a unique baby-sitting club. We have been organized for over 5 years and are looking for new members since we lost several of ours in the summer turnover of residents.

If you would like to have some time during the day to shop, play bridge, or take a class without the little tots -- or would like an evening out with your husband -- why not get with it and join us? We are all mothers like you and we sit for each other on a credit and debit "hours" basis. For more information call: Jean Powell, 780-1929, or Carol Rose, 360-7520, and we will be glad to give you more details and explain the club to you.

NOTARY PUBLIC SERVICES: Notary public services are available from A. R. Powell, 2405 Cavendish Drive, tel. 780-1929.

SEWING CLASSES: Morning and evening - Call Martha Zavadil after 3 p.m. 780-8886.

FOUND: Recorder, musical instrument, wooden, 1 ft. long, found in cardboard box. Call 780-1344.

SEWING: Do you have dresses, skirts, and coats waiting to be hemmed? Call Ginny Wells, 780-2499.

FOR SALE: Boy's green Columbia Stingray Bicycle - excellent condition \$10 780-1277

FOR SALE: Modern Danish corner settee and chair. Foam rubber cushions, blue-green upholstery. \$25.00 and \$15.00 780-2326.

FOR SALE: Ellington upright piano - tuned - good condition. \$95 - call 360-3360.