



Little Hunting Creek Citizens Association

NEWSLETTER

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Stratford Landing • Mt. Vernon District • Fairfax County

GARAGE SALE SEPTEMBER 25

All signals are go. The Women's Club has graciously consented once again to run the semi-annual Community garage sale. It'll be held on Saturday afternoon, the 25th of September at Camden and Stirrup at the park. The Club will not, and neither will the Association be responsible for goods not claimed after the sale is over--there'll be refreshments of all sorts like coffee and hot dogs and soft drinks, as well as a bake sale. The Club will deduct 10% of all sales for charity. The Teen Club will assist by picking up and delivering items offered for sale and sold, all payment for items sold will be by check from the Association within a couple of days after the sale. All items will be accepted except clothes or things for which you desire less than \$1. Donations will be gladly accepted. We sincerely hope that you'll use this chance to clean out the carports, attics, basements and the like and put up for sale all of these things which you simply do not want or need any more. Someone else can undoubtedly use them and will be happy to buy them at a reasonable price. Let's continue to lead the way by making this a real big success with everyone heeding the few ground rules and offering loads of things. It's a proven winner, and across the board the track record shows that between 65-75% of what is offered for sale is actually sold. It's an event planned for you--signs will go up a couple of days before the event to remind you. Plan now and identify what's finally going to leave your house and make some room for you. BRING YOUR ITEMS TO THE SALE BETWEEN 11:30 and 12:30-- the sale itself will run for only TWO hours from 1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. This is a change from previous years so be sure you note it. Lastly, all items not picked up by 3:30 are donated to charity.

CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATES

HERB HARRIS-JIM TATE

AT CIVIC ASSOCIATION MEETING THURSDAY OCTOBER 28TH

It's a long standing tradition--the candidates for elective office rather than coming anywhere in the southern part of the County, await our invitation to meet the voters. They know that we have consistently for ten years now never failed to have at least 100 and more listeners. They know that they can get out a bigger, more interested and educated voter turnout here than even when other candidates nights were county wide affairs.

Yes, it's a tradition--and we sincerely hope and urge all of our Stratforders to mark their calendars now and plan to attend our annual Civic Association membership meeting on THURSDAY night, the 28th of October. It gets down to the same old story. Despite considerable hardship sometimes, we bring out the newsletter each month, we offer all sorts and types of services, represent your interests, attend meetings, act as your spokespersons, plan events for your children of all ages, and so on. You are asked to do but two things this year. To pay your annual membership dues--and you do that

PARK AUTHORITY & STRATFORD

On Thursday night the 16th of September, at the Stratford Landing School at 8:00 P.M. the Fairfax County Park Authority will hold a public hearing as to what the reaction of the community would be if it were to sell six lots of about 2000 square feet to the highest bidder. That's all that was announced. There's more to the story. First, we as a community were not consulted by our Park Authority Mt. Vernon member as to how we felt about the Authority offering to sell its very first land anywhere in the County in more than six years. Second, we as a community, even though the area in question is right in our community, were not officially notified of the Public Hearing nor its purpose. Regardless of these oversights, which really are unpardonable, we are now right on top of the situation and will certainly appear at the Public Hearing to represent our community. We see very little if any need for the community as such to come out for the meeting, except for those who live on the right side of Camden Street between the tennis courts and Cavendish, and those who live on the left hand side of Cavendish as you leave the community. There's a lot of complicated background to this entire story, which, if we tried to explain it here would undoubtedly confuse loads of folks.

Hence, simply understand that: we are taking this up at the executive board; the motivation for this action is that of a builder who needs the little lots to consolidate his holdings so that he can build two more houses on extremely small lots much less than one-fourth acre in size, but that his undertaking unfortunately is totally legal; that our objective is to have all of the facts, brief all of the affected homeowners before the public meeting (which, of course, we will do) nothing occurs about which we can do something which will negatively affect our residents; assure that if there must be a sale it is reasonably priced and not artificially highly priced so our residents may buy to protect themselves if they so desire without the builder jacking up the prices by high bidding; and that finally, we shall try to use the builder's interest in picking up these lots to get some services/improvements out of him. This is why we are elected-- to represent your interests and to get all of the facts. This is what we are doing now, and those directly affected will hear from us before the 16th to gain their views and to ascertain that we will collectively and forcefully represent their interests.

HELP US TO HELP YOU

We have a lot of new residents. It is imperative that they, and all others are reminded of the absolute necessity to keep us informed of events and incidents in the Public Safety arena. We have an excellent ten year track record of extremely close contact and liaison as well as cooperation with the top echelons of the Fairfax County Police. We have had all sorts of special services from them, all legitimate, of course, whenever there have been a series of untoward events taking place. Additional patrols, surveillance by unmarked cars, Operation Identification, special actions by the Police Community Services Officers are but some of these. We must know when you have to call the police. Why, when, what action was taken--a break-in, speeding, dragging, an accident, violation of the noise ordinance, motorbikes--you name it. First, we can help by making contact with the people within the community who are causing you grief without your becoming involved in a neighbor to neighbor situation--we can find out the owners of cars who are speeding or dragging inside the community and call the owners IF they live in Stratford; we can track the type and frequency of incidents and thus request additional services. We certainly do not live in a commune and this is not supposed to be a "big Daddy" type of arrangement, but we all have some pretty deep rooted interests and investments here as far as our real and family interests are concerned, and a civic association, as proven, can be pretty darn effective in picking up the ball when there is a ball to be picked up. Call 780-9388.

beautifully with just about each and every family belonging in the entire area, and-- just as importantly--to show the outside world that we here in Stratford are a cohesive, unified, dedicated, moderate and interested community. At 8:00 P.M. on that Thursday night, the 28th of October, at Stratford Landing Elementary School, we will have as our guest speakers both Herb Harris, the Democratic Party incumbent, and James Tate, the Republican challenger for the 8th Va. District seat in the U. S. House of Representatives. We know both men well, because Herb for eight years was our District Supervisor on the Fairfax Board, and Jim Tate was our delegate in the Lower House in Richmond in the State Legislature. Both know our community, and both gladly accepted our invitation as one of the very few where they can expect a good turnout. Let's not disappoint them. Let's all get out for that meeting. Additionally, we will hold our annual association election of officers, we will hear reports from the various committee chairpersons, bring you up to date on district, county, and state matters of specific and particular interest to us, there'll be refreshments, and it will give you a chance to meet your neighbors--not because you're in Scouts together, or in Little League, or church, or school, but meet them purely and simply as neighbors. Please mark the date and be there.

SKATING RINK PLANNING

There were some of us who believed that in a period of austerity we ought not to push too hard for a million dollar skating facility. There were those who felt very strongly that the money ought to be spent here in the Mt. Vernon area simply because the money was going to be spent anyhow, and that it ought to be here. There were those of us who believed that a swimming pool year round would be preferable to a skating rink. C'est la vie. The facts are that we shall have the skating rink facility, and it's going to be some sort of good deal project--IF we take an active part in seeing to it that it is built properly, administered properly, and has the type of facilities and services most desired. Well, there's a chance for each of us to participate in the process. The Mt. Vernon District Park Authority Advisory Committee will hold a meeting on Monday, the 13th of September at 8:00 P.M. in the Sherwood Hall Library where all of these aspects will be briefed and discussed in some great detail. We'll have ~~ODR~~ Association's Parks and Environment Committee representative Bruce Collette there, of course, but should you have a special interest, and should you just like to find out the whats, whys, and wherefores, either call Bruce ahead of time or go to that meeting.

NEW NUMBER, SAME SERVICE

For many years now we have been religiously taking all your requests for special garbage pickups. It has meant many phone calls, most nice, and some not so nice. It has meant that the County can plan the number of pickups, save money and manpower, and it has meant that you could be assured of the date and time for the pickup. Now, bless her heart, Frances Schrantz has volunteered to take that responsibility away from us. We continue to offer the same service--we'll make all the arrangements and ascertain your stuff gets picked up as soon as we have ten who so wish it. So, do call us, but here's the new number: 780-2765.

GOODWILL COOPERATION

It's almost that time of year---Membership Drive. It means a concerted and concentrated once a year effort by all of our block captains without whom none of this would ever work. We need their help now, to get together with Peggy Buss on 780-1005 to find out what is needed, when it'll be needed, and how it can be done most simply and quickly. We need to update our directory. We need to collect the dues so we can pay for the newsletters, maintenance of Durma Road, refreshments at meetings, get the signs made for all of the community events, run and pay for the community events, and so on. We know that this annual effort takes a little bit of doing, but with just a little bit of unselfish good will, not pushing it off but getting to it, it can be done easily and quickly. Peggy and the block captains absolutely depend on each family's cooperation and friendship. So, first let's make sure the block captains contact Peggy, second, let's make sure you greet, welcome and make the job of your block captains easy by paying your very small dues quickly, giving her the limited data she needs with a smile, and perhaps most importantly by remembering that the block captains are volunteers, they are not some strangers from the outside, but your neighbors who are doing a favor for you and hence deserve your filial, typical Stratford reception.

JOIN A WINNER

Well, the Teens beach party announced in the last newsletter came and went, and it was another great success. The club is alive and well. Its officers, led by Mark Bechtel, are truly community leaders who have assumed responsibility gladly and willingly and who are trying to offer to our teens the type of activity and fun which they are not finding elsewhere. They realize that between curricular and extra-curricular activities there's little time for too much else, but, they and the club members form the nucleus of young people on whom we are totally dependent for newsletter deliveries to the block captains, running our children's carnivals, Hallowe'en parties, Santa Claus programs, helping out at garage sales, and the list goes on and on. Sharon Cannon is the Club's secretary and girl Friday. The club meets about once every two weeks, and runs its own show. Why not give Sharon a call now, and have yourself put on the meeting call list so you can get in on the activities. Her number is 780-1077.

WELCOME ABOARD

In the last newsletter we lamented the fact that Frank Dunham, our Education Committee representative on the Mt. Vernon Council, had left the area and that we wanted to fill that slot on the Executive Board as quickly as possible, as lots of things are afoot in the educational area within which we wanted to ascertain appropriate association representation. With the season starting once again after the summer lull, we were very pleased that we had six volunteers. We asked the first who called to assume the job. Len Stevens is an "old" Stratfordier. He has been on the Board of the association in past times--he has been very active in the Stratford Recreation Association. He has and continues to have children attending the County Public Schools, he is a trained and tried administrator and an all around dedicated man whom we are pleased to have as a member of your and our board.

WHY NOT TRYIT

The Mt. Vernon Center for Mental Health in the new government complex on Sherwood and Parkers Lane needs volunteers--home visitors, advocates and activity sharers, teacher's aides in therapeutic classrooms, child-teacher interactors in the school program, arts and crafts aides, service delivery evaluators, clerical aides, nursery aides, and the list goes on. This County Center is extremely busy, it is an extremely worthwhile endeavor, and it is just the sort of thing in which some of us lucky ones who don't have too many BIG problems should and ought to get involved. Give a call to the Director of Volunteers on 360-6910 and get details.

GOODWILL COOPERATION

As this newsletter went to press, we were deluged with calls from neighbors complaining about the change of stop signs on Bluedale and Wittington. Historically the stop signs arrested traffic on Wittington and permitted through traffic on Bluedale. Despite our long standing rapport with the Va Dept of Transportation and Highways, it did not contact the civic association. We now have the background. One of our residents wrote a letter to the VDH & T because he thought the stop sign had been in the wrong place since at least 1967 and possibly earlier as far as we know. It was his opinion. He did not check with the civic association. He, of course, did not have to. Upon receipt of his letter, the VDH & T proceeded to change the location of the signs. Now what? Wittington is a community access road. Bluedale is not. The rationale of VDH & T is that access routes be left unencumbered as much as possible and purely internal residential streets stop for the access roads. Cavendish and Wittington still have one stop sign to at least slow down their traffic and to preclude those two streets from becoming unmitigated race tracks from their point of origin to termination. Let's learn to live with this change. As the elected representatives of this community and because things like these have an effect on the entire community, VDH & T agrees that they will not make additional changes of this nature without checking with us before the fact.

LET IT WORK BOTH WAYS

Our lost and found service still thrives. But it has to work both ways. Not only should you call Jane Bush on 780-2857 when you have found something, you should also call her to report something you have lost. Please, of course, don't expect Jane to take custody of the items you have found--simply call her to let her know that you have found or lost something and her reward is a very simple one--being able to match that lost and found. Again, recognize it's a service.

NOMINATION TIME

One of the required items during our annual civic association meeting is the election of officers for the association. In accordance with our by-laws there must be one candidate for each of the elected offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and the committee chairman for Civic Improvements, Recreation, Rules and Membership. A five member nominations committee is being formed with two members from the present Board and three from the general membership. Lou Denit, 780-1052 serves as chairman of the committee. Should you be interested in being considered for nomination to any of the elected offices please call Lou before the 25th of September. Nominations from the floor the night of the meeting, Thursday, 28 Oct at the Stratford Landing School at 8 PM will be in order.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance August 1, 1976	\$549.73
<u>Expenditures</u>	
Michael Nixon	\$9.00
Mowing Burma Rd.	40.00
Newsletter - July	69.58
Rental Edger	7.80
Signs	<u>22.00</u>
Total	148.38
Balance August 31, 1976	<u>\$401.35</u>
Savings	1,000.00
Total Assets	<u>\$1,401.35</u>

This Newsletter is published each month by the Little Hunting Creek Citizens Association, Inc. for the benefit and information of its member residents. All members may submit items for inclusion in the "Other Orgs' News" and "Personal Items" sections by submitting them to the Newsletter Chmn. in writing by the 20th of each month. Other contributions to this publication are welcome, subject to edit. The Executive Board meets on the first 2 digit Monday each month in open session.

Peter H. Brinitzer, 780-9388 President	Koz Kosciuszko, 780-2349 Vice President	Laurita Swope, 780-0230 Secretary
Mel Richmond, 780-3947 Treasurer	Peggy Buss, 780-1005 Membership	Fred Morley, 360-4736 Civic Improvements
John Milligan, 780-1599 Rules	Lou Denit, 780-1052 Recreation	Jane Bush, 780-2857 Exec. Coord-Lost & Found
Dr. Bruce Collette, 360-5188 MVCCA, Env. & Parks	David Von Seggern, 780-4914 MVCCA, Transportation	Fred Morley, 360-4736 MVCCA, Planning-Zoning
Bob Grassi, 780-2487 MVCCA, Health & Welfare	Lowell Shearer, 360-6944 MVCCA, Budget & Finance	John Milligan, 780-1599 MVCCA, Public Safety
Shirley Faulkner, 780-1968 Newsletter	Len Stevens, 780-3864 MVCCA, Education	Nancy Miltenberger, 360-6480 MVCCA, Consumer Affairs

OTHER ORGS' NEWS

AMERICAN RED CROSS VOLUNTEERS WANTED: ARC volunteers are needed at DeWitt Army Hospital at Ft. Belvoir. Training sessions are to be held on September 21, Tuesday, followed by hospital orientation on September 23. Time from 9 A.M. to 12 or 12:30. Interviews preceding sessions will be held on September 16 at the Field Office. For an appointment for an interview, please call 664-1247. For further information, call Helen Boccio at 664-1247, or 339-5568.

STRATFORD WOMAN'S CLUB: The members of Stratford Woman's Club extend a most cordial invitation to the women of Stratford to join them at Woodlawn Plantation, the Underwood Room, on Wednesday, September 22 at 10:30 A.M. for their Welcome Coffee and opening of the 76-77 club year. While not required, reservations would be greatly appreciated for planning purposes. Please call Doris O'Quinn, 780-6146, Barbara Miller, 360-6826, Barbara Jackson, 780-7592, or Janet Cuneo, 768-2063.

STRATFORD WOMAN'S CLUB: We're planning a trip to the pottery factory in Williamsburg on Thursday, September 30, leaving at 8:30 A.M. and returning between 7 and 8 that evening. Air Conditioned bus, 46 passenger. Cost approximately \$7.50 if bus is filled. We must send in our deposit soon--please call Marie Wardell, 780-6459, Shirley Faulkner, 780-1968, or Pat Joyce, 360-7994. Go with us and shop for Christmas--many large buildings crammed with goodies!

PERSONAL ITEMS:

FOR SALE: Girl's or boy's bike, 16", good condition, \$20. 780-3874.

FOR SALE: King trombone, excellent condition, for any band student. \$90 360-6940.

FOR SALE: Original hand made ceramics and pottery, special designs made to order.

To see, call Roger, 780-6702.

FOR SALE: Polaroid Land camera 250, cost \$275, sell \$75, w/flash attachment. Chevy 38 antique, needs work, includes new running board covers and stainless steel strips. Best offer. Yamaha 250 motorcycle like new, \$600, or best offer. Also 3 closets of "things", "hatnets", etc. Call 780-2558.

FOR SALE: 1/4 size violin for sale, \$125, 780-8447.

FOR SALE: Used Kenmore washer, good working condition. 780-4126.

WANTED TO BUY: Small size refrigerator, 780-0425.

WANTED TO BUY: Girl's 20" bicycle, 780-3874.

WANTED TO BUY: Second-hand washer and dryer, 360-6590.

PIANO INSTRUCTION: Experienced teacher with master's degree has limited number of openings for fall season. 780-0891.

BABYSITTING: Night and day, all day, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday, and help with parties. Call Sue, 780-1588.

PIANO INSTRUCTION: Pianist will take pupils--call 780-8447.

NOTARY PUBLIC: Mr. A. R. Powell, 2405 Cavendish Drive, Call 780-1929 Mon-Sat.

LOST AND FOUND:

LOST: Boy's 20" bike, hi-riser, green Schwinn. Call 780-8350.

FOUND: Mini Motorbike. 780-7990.

FOUND: Marmalade color male cat, about 2 yrs. old, very friendly. 780-1596.