



NEWSLETTER

Stratford Landing • Mt. Vernon District • Fairfax County

January 1971

INCIDENT-FACTS VS FICTION

In this community, like any other, incidents are bound to occur. Eggs thrown at cars and houses (which remove the paint real fast); thieves systematically stealing VW tires from one house to the next; dogs continually turning over garbage because just a few owners are --plain and simple--downright oblivious to their obligations to respect their neighbors' property, health and welfare; boats taken from the creek even now when there is ice; tearing around the neighborhood running over people's lawns and demolishing stop and speed limit signs; even after Christmas, theft of decorations and the like--yes, all these things will and do happen--they are all things which have been reported this month--sometimes, however, more serious and dangerous incidents occur. One happened this month. It was, potentially, one of the worst types of incidents imaginable. Word spread like wildfire. The rumors were ludicrous and unbelievable. They turned an incident which, thankfully, was not anywhere near as bad as it could have been into an irreparable catastrophe. This is dangerous, this is inflammatory, this puts fear into parents, into children, gives the community a bad name and reputation, gets everyone up tight. We have been told that some people actually wish to move into our area because of the effectiveness and cohesiveness of a well functioning civic association. Rather than passing gossip, rather than compounding an ill, won't you please contact us and let us gather information for you and assist you in getting the straight poop? We have no intention of delineating this particular incident--however, we knew about it within 30 minutes of its occurrence, and worked with the police to this date. Contact us and let's not compound and aggravate situations which hurt the people concerned, hurt your neighbors and the entire community. Continue to call us on all incidents--780-9388, so that we can stay abreast and work with the police.

BIG FAMILY EVENT COMING UP

We have offered two concerts by the Fairfax County Symphony Orchestra--we have offered theater parties--we have sponsored the All-Army and Airmen of Note concerts--we have offered folk concerts--in short, we have taken the lead, not only in the Mt. Vernon District, but as far as citizens associations are concerned in the Greater Washington area. We try to bring entertainment and culture to the residents--in their backyard--this, in addition to the Teen Club, the Children's Carnivals, and the many other events and activities for the entire family.

Now we are beginning the planning for the third annual winter concert of the Fairfax County Symphony Orchestra at Fort Hunt High School. This year, rather than using a weekday night, we will have the concert on a SUNDAY AFTERNOON--on Sunday, the 14th of March, at 3:00 P.M. The program will be outstanding with guest soloists, and, as guest conductor, the director of the University of Maryland Symphony Orchestra and Opera Co. whose training, background and experience truly make him an entity in the field of conducting and classical music. Admission will be nominal. Again, we will be responsible for the entire shooting match--publicity, tickets, sales, admissions, programs, you name it--we need help--a few people pitching in makes little work for

all volunteers--naturally we ask for and solicit your attendance--this is a family event--for the children and their parents--a Sunday afternoon together as a family--away from the TV set--exposure to some of the finer things. Please call and volunteer to help a little bit and watch for the advertising. We'll continue to do our best--IF we know we have your support.

ADDENDUM TO DIRECTORY IS ATTACHED

Attached to this issue of the Newsletter is the promised addendum to the community directory. It combines all new data and corrections including those which were published in the first addendum--we suggest you destroy the first addendum and use the attached. Please call Kay Gray if you notice any errors. We hope you'll continue to find good use for the directory.

RINKS IN FULL OPERATION

We appealed through the Newsletter for fathers to come out and help us--we received very few responses--we asked for contributions from parents of the hundreds of children who use the rinks--almost no response--still, for the sake of the children and their enjoyment, a lot of teens and we are out there each and every night using hundreds of feet of fire hose, in pretty cold weather, to keep the rinks in top shape. The teens monitor and ascertain safety and decorum at the rinks each and every day from 3PM to 8PM free of charge. It is only at night when the work is very hard and very cold that they are paid \$1.50 per hour. Still, a look at the treasurer's report will show you that this runs into money which is coming straight out of the treasury. The rinks are unique, they are the only ones of this kind in the County. We do all the maintenance and enable all your children to have fun out there--we have asked for and are receiving contributions now from the citizens associations of Riverside Gardens and Waynewood for which we are thankful, but we certainly hope that our community will not just simply take this facility for granted--remember 620 + residents, each giving a single dollar will do it! A REMINDER--THE RINKS ARE ATTENDED BY RESPONSIBLE TEENS--THEY ARE THUS UNDER SUPERVISION--FOR A NUMBER OF REASONS WE CLOSE THEM AT 8:00 P.M. NIGHTLY--HENCE THERE SHOULD NOT BE ANY APPREHENSION IN PERMITTING YOUR CHILDREN TO USE THEM--ONCE ON THE ICE, THOUGH, IT IS AT YOUR OWN RISK--WE ARE NOT LIABLE FOR PERSONAL INJURIES.

COMMUNITY BLIGHT IS GONE

We are pleased to tell you, should you not have noticed, that the Mt. Vernon Market is no more and that after years and years of struggle, fighting rezoning applications and the like, the corner of Wittington, Linton, and Elkin now looks a whole lot better. Once the four homes are built on it, and they will be built, another milestone will have been passed.

SEWERS & MONEY

Before the decision of the County Board of Supervisors, we attended numerous meetings and hearings--the issue was debated back and forth--innumerable hours were spent--one thing was certain--the sewer rates had to go up simply because the sewer bond issue passed with a whopping majority, and who, other than our community, had a more vested interest in ascertaining that our Little Hunting Creek Disposal Plant stopped dumping raw "stuff" into our creek--that there was maximum removal of oxygen containing materials--that in a couple of years, the plant would disappear altogether? Hence, the only question remaining was who should pay how much more based on what kind of billing system. Then the Board reached its decision. Our supervisor favored the flat rate--a higher one than we used to pay, but a flat rate. The vote of the Board was five to four against his desires. Now, you have received your first bill--for this quarter only it was a flat rate--from now on, it'll be on a metered basis--you have all received a long statement from the authorities explaining the new system. But one thing is wrong--why should a single home dweller be punished monetarily for watering his lawn when that water does not go into the sewers? We realize this, our supervisor realizes

this, and amendments to the ordinance are already on the drawing board. The final word has not yet been spoken. In the interim, why not do this? Take out your bills for water for the year 1970. See how many gallons you consumed--figure on 85¢ per 1000 gallons, and then compare that figure with a flat \$85 per year. See which figure is higher and how much of a difference it makes. Then, if you have feelings either way, won't you call us (780-9388) and let's see what the consensus is. Do not, we suggest, individually call the water people, our supervisor--let us handle your interests collectively--it is more effective. Our suggestion: do not as yet think about investing in a separate water meter--it costs too much and may be wasted money--let's work together--we have the lobby and the means to get our thoughts and ideas across--and then some!

YOU SHOULD KNOW THIS

The headline says--this you should know--insisting that they wanted no publicity, our Teen Club, your young men and women, during the Christmas season, on their own initiative, did things for which they can only be commended and admired--one of the fellows dressed as Santa Claus, and about twenty of our teens went to the home of the family which they have sort of adopted--gave them presents, sang Christmas carols, and otherwise made the life of that needy family more worthwhile. Responding to an urgent call for assistance, the teens contributed \$100 of their treasury to a Gum Springs family, burned out of their home twice--separated--without a father--and made it possible for that family to move into an apartment after the teens paid the deposit. The teens continue to visit the first family, and will continue to contribute ten percent of their earnings to charity--and we think it's simply great.

SKI TRIP COMING UP

On the 29th of this month, a Friday when there will be no school, your teens have decided to have their first ski trip--it'll be to Bryce's Mountain--travel will be by AB&W chartered bus. There will be chaperones--they will leave at 8:00 A.M. and return from Bryce leaving there at 7:00 P.M. Although the cost per rider on the bus will come to \$5.00 for members, for members only the cost will be only \$2.00. While there, admission will be \$3.00, and the rental of equipment \$4.00. Hence as a member, if they have their own equipment or get it from the military, the cost will only be \$5.00 for the entire trip--if equipment must be rented, it will be \$9.00--a small sum, all inclusive. Please encourage your youngsters to join the club. Please permit them to go. Their Teen Newsletter contains the details. Naturally, if your youngster is not a member or wishes to bring a guest, they may also go--but the cost will be \$5.00 for the ride, and only after all members are accommodated. You know, we spend an awful lot of time with your teens--for your sake--to make it possible for your offspring to have dances and parties, to make the club tick. We do need your support in encouraging your teens to participate. Nominations are now under way, and the elections for new officers will be in February--we need new blood and your encouragement helps.

MINI-BIKES ?

Mini bikes are illegal on streets and sidewalks, and may not be used on school ground property--unless the driver and the bike are licensed. Please help in ascertaining that serious accidents are avoided by not permitting mini bikes to be used where prohibited--stop children who use them and inform them of the facts.

PROGRESS ON ENTRY SIGNS

Three designs for entry signs have been received. We have agreed to get more submissions as none fully pleased--but progress is being made, and we hope that for the next meeting of the Association we will have designs ready for your approval, coupled with cost estimates, etc.

SANTA TOUR SUCCESSFUL

We are proud of ourselves that this year, Santa came and went on his engine, without complaints, without missing any streets (except one) and that the entire exercise came off well—we thank Santa of the Teen Club for a good job and the Fire Dept. for helping out.

XMAS DECORATIONS WINNERS

We picked the winners! There probably weren't quite as many decorated homes as last year, but those which were decorated could not have been better. The committee was thrilled, and even received some invites to step in! Thankfully, after hours of deliberation the choices were unanimous, and each winner received a \$10 gift certificate, and a ribbon adorned his yard.

Best Overall:	Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Johnson, 8615 Yardley
Most Original:	Mr. and Mrs. Tom Killion, 8720 Bluedale
Most Appropriate for the Season:	Mr. & Mrs. Mike Lynch, 8408 Blakiston

Many thanks to the committee, composed of Mrs. Dottie Vogt, Jack King, Betty Shawn, B. D. Smith, and of course, Lou (the Great) Denit!

ASSOCIATION MEETING IN FEBRUARY

The time has come once again when we start getting nervous—it's time to announce the next quarterly meeting of this, your Association! Nervous because your attendance at these meetings is probably one of the best and only means we have of gauging whether you think we are doing the job—the less come, the more we tend to feel no one cares, and we are wasting our efforts. The date is Thursday night, the 25th of February at 8:00 P.M. in the Stratford Landing School. As usual, we will try to make it informative, lively, and short—we can still say that since June '68 we have not had a single meeting with less than 100 in attendance. Please mark your calendar now, and let's see you there. We are negotiating now for a guest speaker, and will furnish details as to identity and the agenda in the next Newsletter.

ALL-NAVY SHOW IN THE MAKING

We have had an All-Air Force and an All-Army show—both had more than 2000 people in attendance at the Fort Hunt Stadium. For April, we are now beginning to plan for an All-Navy-Marine program on a Saturday or a Sunday afternoon—in the interim, mark your calendar now for the concert on Sunday afternoon, the 14th of March.

READ THIS PLEASE!

One of the reasons why we think we have a really effective Civic Association is our participation and leadership in the several standing committees of the Mount Vernon Council of Civic Associations, Inc. of which we are a member, and for which we furnish one of the three elected Co-Chairmen, and for which we have one representative on each committee. It is again a question of becoming and being most effective through larger umbrella type organizations representing, in this instance, the entire District. Barbara Guard has been our representative on the Environmental Affairs Committee. Air and water pollution, pesticides, anything which pertains to the environment—tangible things which can be done—is handled by this committee. Barbara, unfortunately, is leaving the area. We need a new representative. Requirement: a true interest in our environment, one evening a month for a committee meeting, and membership on our Executive Board. Won't you please call and volunteer? It is a meaningful way for you to get your thoughts translated into action, to do something about an ever growing problem, and a way to help shape the way your Association is run through your membership on its Executive Board. We have 620+ wives—620+ husbands—we are looking for one of either sex—

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash balance as of 30 December 1970		\$1409.14
Receipts:		
Late Dues	\$3.00	1412.14
Disbursements:		
Prizes for Christmas Decorating Contest	\$ 30.00	
Contrib. to Mt. Vernon Vol. Fire Dept.	25.00	
State Registration Fee and Franchise Tax	5.00	
Santa Claus Candy	18.13	
Skating Rink salaries 1/11	160.17	
Skating Rink salaries 1/18	109.75	
Sign printing	20.00	
Addendum typing	20.00	
	<u>\$388.05</u>	
Total Cash on Hand		1024.09
Savings and CD	\$2087.74	
Int. on Savings 12/31	12.14	
		<u>2099.88</u>
Total Assets		\$3123.97

This Newsletter is published monthly by Little Hunting Creek Citizens Assn., Inc. for the benefit and information of its member residents. All members may submit items for inclusion by submitting them to the Secretary in writing, no later than the 15th of each month.

Peter H. Brinitzer, 780-9388 President	David Bryant, 780-6512 Vice-President	Nancy Shafer, 780-8914 Secretary
Barbara Hower, 780-4758 Treasurer	Kay Gray, 780-1917 Membership	John McAleer, 780-8455 Community Improvements
Lub Lippert, 780-7323 Rules	Lou Denit, 780-1052 Recreation	Jane Bush, 780-2857 Executive Coordinator
Roz O'Connor, 780-4611 Education Rep.	Barbara Guard, 780-8906 Environment Comm. Rep.	Marge Genovese, 780-1631 Health & Welfare Rep.
Shirley Faulkner, 780-1968 Newsletter Assistant		Jim Bambery, 780-7495 Transportation Rep.

OTHER ORGS' NEWS

Ft. Hunt Elementary School: If any of your college students returning home for the semester break would be interested in visiting Ft. Hunt Elementary to observe the instructional program, Mrs. Hollandsworth, principal, will be most happy to arrange time for them to come into the school--dates may be scheduled by calling 780-9466. Next PTA meeting will be the 16th of February; one week later than regularly scheduled meeting.

Resources Committee, Ft. Hunt Elementary - Some 20 parents have come forward, and we have the nucleus of a "resource bank". A wide variety of subjects has been covered, but we still seek people for: woodworking, puppet making, space exploration, map making, pollution control (air and land), family life in other countries, city management and planning, operation of a community business or service, or any other area of specialization you may have to offer --call now to volunteer--Phyllis Tritsch, 780-6761.

Duplicate Bridge Meetings in February: Friday, Feb. 5, and Friday, Feb. 19, 1971, at St. Aidan's, Riverside Road, at 7:30 P.M. For further information, call Mr. L. Benson, Tel. 780-2788.

PERSONAL ITEMS:

Wanted to Buy or Exchange: Boy's ice skates, size $9\frac{1}{2}$ or 10, also girl's skates, size $3\frac{1}{2}$ or 4. Have girl's skates, size 2 to exchange or sell, \$3.00. 780-0261

Wanted: A well working extra refrigerator you would be willing to loan or rent for use from May-Aug. for Stratford pool. Please call 780-8646.

Wanted: Garage (or carport) space for storing a sports car. 780-2402.

Wanted: Work at home for gal with good aptitude for figures--owns adding machine and typewriter. Forte is primarily statistical, but has some knowledge of accounting, bookkeeping, and income tax. Anyone interested, please contact Louise Grassi, 780-2487.

Stretch Knit Sewing Classes: Why drive to Springfield? Classes in this area starting March 1, 9:30 A.M. to 12:00 noon, March 2, 7:30 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. Call Mrs. Norma Gardner, 765-7734, for information and registration.

Used Persian Lamb Coat with hat for sale \$95.00, tel. 780-9417.

Notary Public - A. R. Powell, 2405 Cavendish Drive, 780-1929, Monday thru Saturday.

Wanted: A VOLUNTEER, ACCOUNTANT, BOOKKEEPER, CPA, or the like, resident of the Stratford area, willing to devote a little time on a one-shot basis to audit the Stratford Recreation Association books--help the community, help SRA to save the fees, Volunteer Now. Call Doris Willard, 780-8646--PLEASE?

F L A S H

While the Newsletter was at the Printer we recieved word that U.S. Senator William Spong, Democrat from Virginia, will be our guest speaker at the Association meeting on Thurs. night February 25th.

MAKE PLANS NOW TO BE THERE.....