



Little Hunting Creek Citizens Association

NEWSLETTER

Stratford Landing • Mt. Vernon District • Fairfax County

June 1971

EXTRAORDINARY FEATURE FOR ASSN MEETING WED JUN 30th

Our By-Laws require that four meetings of the Association be held annually. This announces the third of the annual meetings to be held at the AIR CONDITIONED Fort Hunt Elementary School on Wednesday night, the 30th of June at 8:00 P.M. There will be refreshments, and what we believe are two extraordinary attractions--two films which, both 30 minutes long and in color, are among the best ever produced on their respective subjects. One of them will leave you shocked and breathless, we promise you--we urge each and every parent to attend this meeting. President Nixon is about to appoint a special action commission on the drug problem--we will show a film which should and must be seen by all--we urge you, sincerely and earnestly, to bring along your children to see this film--additionally, we will discuss the future of the Fire Station, report on Burma Road, discuss the Teen Club and its activities, and all the other matters which should concern you. Most importantly, we will report to you as we should and as we must as to what concerns you as residents of this community. May we ask your support--may we ask you to please attend. It is in your interest. We of the Executive Board have only your attendance as a gauge as to whether all of our time and effort serve a useful purpose. Bring your children for the films and mark your calendar now, please--we ask very little of you and try to give a lot--'nuff said!

BELIEVE - BELIEVE !

Despite the doubters, despite the setbacks and disappointments (and there were many) the time has come. As this is being written, passage through the old Burma Road is possible as the two basic layers of the road are in, and, only barring bad weather, the road will be paved and ready for full operation by the time you read this. Let's just recall--in 1968, for the first time in years and years, we took that double twisted path and we cleaned it of all rubbish, cars, tires, heaters, freezers, and the rest. We ascertained that it remained clean. Detailed negotiations ensued to find out who owned the strip--legally--then we thought there was a quick solution by entering into an agreement with Keen Homes, only to find that the County would not go along--(in retrospect that was the best thing the County could have done). We saw to it that no further construction permits would be granted unless a permanent solution to the access problem was reached. That broke the ice, and the County forced a commitment to have that part of the road which goes over the flood plain paved. That part was finally completed by March 15 last year. From

then on, we thought we would be on Easy Street--but sewer moratoriums, rights of way, building permits, etc., impeded progress. Now, finally, this community, after having been in existence and having expected a respectable access road to the Mt. Vernon Parkway since the first homes went on sale more than fifteen years ago, has what it should have. Let's make no mistake. Without the invaluable help of Herbert Harris, our District Supervisor, it would not have come about despite added developments, progress, and the like. We thank all those who preceded us for their efforts and their time, and we are extremely pleased that the time has finally come. As you drive through it now, just try to keep it clean, and recall the days when going through that strip was like going through----Burma Road.

TIME FOR ACTION !

Whenever, in the past three years, this community has faced a community-wide problem, we have discussed it and we have faced it--finding solutions wherever possible. We now have a problem, ludicrous as it may seem, about which we must do something. Letters have been written; calls have come in by the dozen--weekly--the complaints have come from every corner and nook of the community--DOGS--one newspaper delivery boy was severely bitten this month; a lovely little dog was run over and killed without fault of the driver; children have been attacked; garbage has been strewn all over; front lawns have been marred by unwanted "additions" (some occurring while the dog was on the leash of the owners); garbage cans have been turned over--the point is that something really must be done because it simply isn't fair for the majority of dog owners who have their pets fenced at great expense to themselves and those who do not own pets to have to be subjected to the inconsideration and actual danger caused by callousness and inconsideration of a relatively few and frankly, identified residents who simply do not seem to care or possess any type of civic responsibility. There have been suggestions that we initiate a draft ordinance for adoption by the Board of Supervisors requiring that any owner of a dog be required to fence in his property; that we request regularly scheduled coverage by the seven County dog wardens; that dogs found in other people's yards be taken in and turned over to the County. These matters cause hard feelings--they set neighbor against neighbor--at the meeting this month, Wednesday night, the 30th, we plan to discuss this and come up with some positive steps. Now, if you are one of the dozens who has called and all the others who have been offended, this meeting will be your chance to do something, or hold your peace--please come to the meeting.

FOR THE RECORD

Just in case you don't think the momentum has been kept up, here's a report on what has occurred since the May newsletter. The garage sale was successful and a lot of items exchanged hands. We will have another one in late summer--probably in September. Because of the sale, \$50 was turned over to St. Aidan's Church as a contribution by this Association towards the construction of a new church. We also had a Children's Carnival. Would you believe that we sold more than 14 cases of soft drinks and 300 hot dogs? That more than 2000 tickets for rides were sold? The work of the Teen Club in actually running this event was exemplary once again, and all of the Teens are and should be sincerely thanked, not only for the work but for sharing 50-50 the financial loss which was expected and incurred--the carnivals are a public service, the concessions are quite expensive, and we were glad that the losses which were incurred were relatively small--many thanks to Debbie Vitetta and Terry Krohn who had overall Teen Club responsibility for the event.

TRUCK DISTURBANCE

The residents of Londonderry and other streets of our community have been justifiably perturbed by the volume, noise, and hours of operation of the scores of trucks which daily enter and leave the sewerage disposal plant at Londonderry and Stockton. We appreciated that the residents brought this matter to the attention of the Board. We are assured by the appropriate County activities that the drivers have been firmly instructed to maintain established speed limits, and that night traffic after midnight has been totally eliminated, and that every effort is being made now to curb it altogether after 9 P.M. Please keep us informed of infractions. We can only help when the problem has been brought to us as it should be brought to us.

IT'S UP TO YOU

Would you believe that since the last Newsletter, 31 reports of stolen bikes were received by us? It's true. Some of these bikes were later retrieved half-submerged in the Creek--some were found parked in other carports--some abandoned--the majority, however, have not been found. May we put it this way? Parents, please see that your children's bikes are their own and do not permit them to ride or have bikes which you know are not their own. Parents, buy locks for your children's bikes and teach your children to lock their bikes at all times. Parents, when the bikes are not in use and are stored in your carports, lock them against a permanent fixture to discourage someone just walking off with them. Parents, if your bikes were some of those just left all over your front lawns and sidewalks for hours and nights on end--please don't blame anyone but yourselves--but, if you have looked into the eyes of a little boy who has had two bikes stolen from him in two weeks' time and you realize your own helplessness in not being able to do anything about it, then you'll know how necessary it is for you to take some precautions and to ascertain that perhaps your own child isn't "just borrowing" and then abandoning someone else's prized possession.

IT'S GREAT IT WARRANTS YOUR SUPPORT

Whether you have teen children or not--will you read this? You know what they say about today's youth--well, read on--our Teen Club just sponsored and there is now in the little league a team which is called Stratford Teen Club. It cost the Teen Club \$150 to do this, and they did it willingly and gladly--the only Teen Club anywhere in this County which is doing it--the same Teen Club which is now, on its own initiative, going to do something unique--a rap-in for the Jr. High School age group--the details are in the attached Teen Newsletter--but let us just say that the idea of the Sr. High School age Teen Club members inviting in the Jr. High age compatriots just so they can talk about their hang-ups, about the things which bother them, about their problems, is just great. It is also very constructive--the older ones have been through that period of problems--they belong to the same peer group--let's hope that a lot of the younger group come to the rap-in--that they come of their own free will, and that by talking man to man and among themselves they'll realize that their problems and the things which bug them are not unique, and that there are ways and means to talk things over and feel better. If you have read this far, will you read on? On Monday, the 28th of June the Teens will have their first beach party to Ocean City. Last year's were extremely successful--please permit your teens to go. If they are members, the charge is only \$3.00--if they are not, the charge is \$6.00. The Club will take a considerable loss on this excursion, but they feel this is why they have money in their treasury. Let your teens join the club and thus save money, and let them sign up immediately so they don't get left out. Read their

Newsletter for details. They will leave Ocean City at 9:00 P.M. and return here by midnight. There will be an adult chaperone for the bus ride--if you would like to volunteer, please call 780-9388. The age limit--no one below 14 years or over 19--finally, on the 10th of July the Teens will have another dance. Encourage them to attend. They are supervised, and it is a good place to go. In short, do you know that this Teen Club of ours is the best, most effective, most active, and most financially secure teen activity of its kind in the County? Support it!

SEWER RATES

We are informed that at the Board of Supervisors meeting on Wednesday, June 23, our supervisor, Herb Harris, plans to introduce the first moves to change the billing system for county residents for water and sewerage. When this action takes place, we will have the best and most tangible proof of the effectiveness of a civic association working with and through its elective representative to gain redress for possible inconsistencies or injustices in matters affecting all home owners. We will keep you informed and request your support as warranted in the struggle which inevitably will precede what we are sure will be successful efforts at fair billing for very much needed improvements.

FIRE STATION FUTURE

During the past month, questionnaires and briefing notes relevant to the future disposition of the Mt. Vernon Fire Station were circulated throughout the community. We thank the 25% of our residents who responded. Frankly, we hoped for a much larger response--but any time one out of four responds it should be considered a good reaction. We are only sorry that the remaining 75% just didn't seem to care--the results of the survey, very professionally computed, thanks to the work of Gene SeEVERS and Lud Lippert, are rather interesting and enlightening. Please be at the Association meeting on Wednesday night the 30th at which time a detailed report will be rendered, accompanied by a resume of the current status of discussions on this subject.

MAIL BOXES

In case you have not noticed or you have missed the mail drop which used to be in the impossible corner of Londonderry, Elkin, and Riverside, we took the required action to remove the traffic and safety hazard, and had it moved to the corner of Londonderry and Yardley Street. We hope this meets with approval, and that it will be utilized. It is one of only three in the community, and by having it moved to its present location, it now reverts back to its community use purpose. For the residents of Yardley and Londonderry--these are the only streets where mail boxes are affixed at the curbs removed from the houses. We have initiated the required paper work with the postmaster to receive authorization to afford you the choice of removing the curb drops and affixing them to your houses. Through your respective block captains, we will inform you of progress.

WELCOME HARBOR POINT

This will be the first Newsletter which will reach the newly arriving members of the Association moving into the Harbor Point section of Stratford Landing. We are pleased to welcome them sincerely--to announce that a block captain, Mrs. Jerry Hissman, is already hard at work, and that a cordial welcome is extended to all of the new residents to come meet their neighbors at the Association meeting Wednesday night, the 30th of June, at the AIR CONDITIONED Fort Hunt Elementary School.

PROGRESS

We are pleased that we can now tell you that in conjunction with the developer of Harbor Point, the first of our entry signs into our community will be up soon--it will be placed right beyond the overpass of the flood plain on Burma Road (now Camden Street). It will look very similar to the entry sign at the Parkway to Stratford on the Potomac--it will read Stratford Landing and below it Harbor Point, and the cost will be shared between the developer and the Association, so that we will be able to stay well within the amount the Board has been authorized to spend by vote of the membership at the last meeting. Progress continues.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash balance as of 15 May 1971 \$561.68

RECEIPTS:

Garage sale receipts	\$516.93	
Return of change for sale	48.00	
Late dues	9.00	
	<u>573.93</u>	1135.61

DISBURSEMENTS:

Printing April Newsletter	20.26
Posters, band concert	28.86
Cash (change for garage sale)	48.00
Signs (garage sale)	10.00
Proceeds to sellers, gar. sale	465.93
Profits of sale, to St. Aidan's building fund	51.00
To Fairfax Co., donation towards Navy Concert	40.00
Printing May Newsletter and forms	41.51
	<u>705.56</u>

Cash on hand: 430.05

Savings and CD 2137.29

TOTAL ASSETS: \$2567.34

NOTICE

The night that this Newsletter was being prepared for the printer, yet two additional reports of break-ins into homes in our community were reported to us. That same night, we were informed that one house had been broken into 4 times, and a boat vandalized twice, which had not been reported to us previously. Additionally, that same night, once again, residents felt they had to call the police because of excessive disturbances of the peace by young elements not resident in our community. These occurrences coupled with other recent break-ins to some degree have made some residents "up tight". First, let's hope everybody keeps his "cool". What's happening in our community is not unique, nor are the incidents comparatively high. What do we urge you to do? First, call the police under any and all circumstances, though you may consider the incident small. Second, please immediately inform the Association at any time, 780-9388, so that we may use our established coordination channels with the police and use the information you give us to ask, request, insist on, and if necessary, demand additional patrols.

(Cont. after Want Ads on page 7)

This Newsletter is published by the 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.	Dr. Bruce Collette 360-5188 Environment Comm. Rep.	Kay Schulherr, 780-1297 Health & Welfare Rep.
Shirley Faulkner, 780-1968 Newsletter Assistant		Jim Bambery, 780-7495 Transportation Rep.

PERSONAL ITEMS

HELP! HELP! HELP!

There is an urgent need for responsible drivers in our community (we love teenagers) to help us get our enrollees to their new school at the Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church on Sherwood Hall Lane. The school is an activity center for the over age 16 yr. retarded adult. This is the second center we have established in the County under the direction of the Mental Health and Retardation Services Board. The other center is located in the Annandale area, and soon we hope to start another center in the western end of the County to fill the need there. Please help us provide a service for those individuals who no longer have a program or school to attend. The hours are from 9:00 A.M. to 2:30 P.M. daily Monday through Friday. The enrollees all live in the Mt. Vernon area, and from Stratford a round trip is about 40 minutes. Please call Ruth Freaney 780-2239 or 780-9444 if you are able to drive one trip or even one way any day.

FOR SALE: '65 white Bonneville, vinyl interior, automatic, air conditioned, all power, fully equipped, wire wheels, new tires plus snow tires, one owner, call 780-2671.

FOR SALE: '67 Red Volkswagen Bug, call 780-8838.

For Sale: Imported walnut console w/record player, tape recorder, 2SW bands, AM-FM radio, Grundig. 780-8838.

For Sale: Leaving area, must sell GE Washer, \$100, GE Dryer, \$75. Both for \$150--look like new, available July 9. 780-1220.

For Sale: 2 metal bed frames, single size, on casters, 2/\$15. 360-7657.

For Sale: Honda Trail 70 Excellent condition. Orange, with helmet and accessories. Car rack included. \$310 or best offer. Call Tim McDonald, 780-2021.

For Sale: Aquariums and supplies--20 gal. long, \$20. 20 gal. tall \$25. 3½ gal. \$5. Price includes full hood, gravel, plants, fish, heater. 360-4251.

For Sale: Fedders 16,000 BTU's 220 volts Air Conditioners--have two units bought several years ago. Never removed from shipping crates--new units, but 1966 models. Price \$170 each. 780-1473.

For Sale: Executive desk, Formica kitchen table w/four chairs, wicker chair and table, wooden settee and table, golf cart, insulated dog house, Toro lawnmower, "Buster" water skis, 10 gal. aquarium complete with accessories and stand (Silent Giant pump), 4 asst. aquariums of various sizes. 780-8584.

House for Rent: 5 br, 3½ baths, finished walkout basement(Gramercy) carport. available Aug. 1, 1971. 780-8584.

House for Rent: Available Aug. 15, Gramercy, 5 br. 3 bath \$300. 360-7657.

Wanted: Good second hand boy's bicycle--please call 780-8496.

Wanted: Boy's bunk beds, please call Jim Seeley, 360-3167.

Wanted: House cleaner wants job. Teen age girl (15½) will clean weekdays and weekends. Will also babysit--would like permanent job. Please call 780-4764.

Wanted: Dependable young girl, entering senior yr. in college, elementary education major, desires summer work: 2½ yrs. exp. in tutoring, qualified lifeguard and water safety instructor, and also excellent babysitter (if you need to get away from the kids for a weekend or week.) Have own transportation. Please contact Sher Senna, 780-8496.

Notary Public: A. R. Powell, 2405 Cavendish Dr. 780-1929. Mon. thru Saturday.

REWARD-- for return of boy's 10-speed lightweight English racing bike. Red with black saddle seat, place for water bottle. St. James model. Taken from carport while at church Sunday. 780-2098.

LOST: Boy's small bicycle, gold, banana seat, white. High handle bars, racing bike. 780-0346.

LOST: Boy's bike--Sears--golden color, 16", Spider, black seat w/basket. Call 780-2156.

LOST: Boy's red English bike, 10 speed, (new). 780-1901.

LOST: Boy's red bike, 26", Sears. 780-2263.

FOUND: Girl's blue bicycle, banana seat, white, high handlebars. 780-1598.

FOUND: Boy's red bicycle, banana seat, high handlebars. Back lic. plate

"Jim". Boy's Spider bike, red, three speed, banana seat. Phone 780-2061.

FOUND: Boy's Spyder bike, high handlebars, white seat, 5 speed, Sears, 780-2467.

FOUND: Boy's red Schwinn, banana seat, 21". 780-4970.

FOUND: Girl's blue 3 speed, basket. 780-1424.

FOUND: Boy's bicycle--780-7495.

(Cont. from page 5)

Most of our residents know that through our work with the Public Safety Committee of the District Council and as Chairman of the Prevention Committee of the Regional Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement Advisory Council, our relations with the County Police are sufficiently well cemented that we are gratified by quick reaction and response. Third, please, by calling the same number, inform us when your house will be vacant overnight. Fourth, illuminate the front and back of your house during all hours of darkness. Fifth, believe it or not, some of our ladies, especially, simply do not lock their homes while out shopping during the day--do secure your home and property by not only shutting but locking the doors. Sixth, take license numbers of cars whose drivers' actions offend you, and pass them on to us. Seventh, and probably most importantly, if you notice actions and/or activities which you consider offensive or extraordinary or suspicious, do something rather than nothing, like, for instance, ascertaining that the action stops by your stopping it, observing it carefully, and reporting it, or getting together with your neighbor for moral support and then stopping it. We have an outstanding community--an outstanding record of civic cohesion and achievement--let's work together and once again, let's keep our "cool". Come to the Civic Association meeting and make yourself feel like part of a group of friends.