



*Little Hunting Creek Citizens Association*

# NEWSLETTER

Stratford Landing • Mt. Vernon District • Fairfax County

July 1971

## IT'S A GOOD THING

The complaints have gone down remarkably -- but one house break-in reported; there has been less speeding; there have been fewer bikes and other personal property reported missing; scores of people with questions relevant to drug related problems have been helped and have received quick and reliable responses; a number of lesser offenses have been cleared up and the culprits identified and confronted. Even more importantly, our teens have had hours of contact with a member of the police department--they have gone riding with him, they have heard his and the department's problems--they have gotten to know a representative of the so-called establishment who isn't too much older than they are--virtually hundreds of our residents have met him as he has cruised through our area. We have been extremely fortunate, and frankly, after some considerable planning, Officer Bob Lockhart of the Fairfax County Police Community Services Division has been assigned to us and our community since July 1. Each day he has gone to the Groveton Substation and has picked up copies of each and every complaint which has been received--he has followed up each one in addition to the work done by the regular police. Officer Lockhart has been living proof of what was felt all along--that the presence, the visibility of our police force in suburban areas not only fulfills specific preventive purposes, but bridges the gap between the taxpayers in the communities and their police force.

It all started with our volunteer courtesy patrols three years ago. We were then successful in convincing the authorities that they should start a Project Visibility by assigning regularly scheduled patrols in various subdivisions. This helped. But insufficient personnel and too many subdivisions finally made the project inefficient. Conferences, discussions, and considerable assistance by our district supervisor finally resulted in the establishment of the Community Services Division with the Police Department, manned by but three personnel. Bob Lockhart's work in our community is a pilot project, because in conjunction with available federal grants, the process to enlarge the Community Services Division to 12 officers is now under way.

## GOODBYE AND THANK YOU

As you read this Newsletter, our community is about to lose one of its leaders--a man who since 1969 has been instrumental in so many community services that one cannot count them all--the garage sales organizations, the delivery of Newsletters to block captains, the posting of all the notices of meeting and announcement throughout the community, and many, many other tasks. He is the President of our Teen Club, Chuck Woford. He is only a young man in years and experience, but he is a big man for his reliability, his maturity, his attitude, his leadership, and being a regular guy. We wish Chuck and



his family Godspeed and good luck and we eagerly await their return. This then will be a period of trial for the Teen Club--to see just how much depth it has. We think that as long as we have young men and women like Tim Hower, John Evans, Terry and Tom Krohn, Debbie Vitetta, Cindy Lang, Peggy Steele who has done so much for the Club, her brother Bob, Barbara Haley, Fritz Rauch, Bob Dixon, Nancy Sasser, Denise Bell, the Wilson boys and Mike Herwig, Mike Carren, and the list goes on and on of young people who are dedicated and community minded, things will go alright. We urge all parents of all teens to support this Club--it's one of the truly good things which exist in this field today--in this area for sure.

## IMPORTANT NEWS RE:CREEK

It has been almost a year since we asked Mr. Harris to initiate actions leading towards dredging of our Creek. With the sewerage disposal plant moving in a couple of years, the interest in boating being on the increase, from the purely ecological standpoint the time had come to investigate the feasibility of dredging and cleaning out Little Hunting Creek. Harris's Board action got the ball rolling. There were inspection trips, there was the inclusion of the Corps of Engineers in studies, etc. Now, during late September or early October there will be public hearings as to what the communities abridging the Creek really want. This is an important issue. How deep a channel? How about the environmental and ecological factors realizing what a beautiful area the creek really is? Must there be public ramps somewhere along the creek? What happens to all the fill which must be taken out? To assure that this Association and all of its residents have strong and accurate representation at these public meetings, Dr. Bruce Collette, our member of the Environmental Committee of the Council, has been asked by the Board to form a committee of interested residents to arrive at positions which will represent the views and feelings of our residents. We will ascertain that the group of Stockton Parkway waterfront owners is on the committee, and we encourage any and all others to contact Bruce (who will be back in town the third week of August) if they wish to participate in the committee's work which will then be subject to the membership's approval. The committee will gain facts, will gain knowledge, and then make it easier for all of us to reach decisions. We think that appearing at the hearings as an organized, interested group is at least as effective as a small number of individuals doing it on their own, which, of course, they can still do. We are known in this county as probably one of a half dozen associations which is fully operational, and whose opinions and voices are really heard.

## WATER/SEWER CHARGES

It is gratifying to see that though it may be coming late, relief is at hand. The problem of water and sewer billing has been so complicated and so ridiculous that if it didn't mean a lot of bother and expense to some of our residents, it would be almost funny. The charges which have recently been received by our residents have ranged from the low \$30s to over \$220 for the period ending generally in May or June. Some meters read thousands of gallons more than the actual billings. Neighbors, immediate neighbors, with identical homes and identical number of family members have received bills which vary more than \$100 and then some. We had many calls. We appreciated them. We suggested in each case that the FWCA be called, that their people be asked to come out, not to accept their stock comments that "your toilets must be leaking" and that they, together with the FWCA, approach consumption figures which are "in the ball park". Now, thanks almost exclusively to the help of our District Supervisor, Herb Harris, two separate relief actions are on the way. First, there will be an across the board 20% reduction in the charges for water and sewerage for the billing period within which Aug-



ust falls. Second, as soon as the Board of Supervisors returns from their August vacation, public hearings will be held leading toward the Board of Supervisors voting on the Harris motion to peg all future sewer/water billings on the consumption quarter within which the month of January falls. When those public hearings are held, we will call upon you for assistance. We will want to have a number of residents testify on behalf of themselves and their Civic Association. We will give you details in the next Newsletter. In the interim, we are glad that our work, the work of the Mt. Vernon Council, and the tangible productive efforts of Mr. Harris have brought a 20% relief already, with a good chance that in the future, the foreseeable future, the charges will be equitably assigned. Now all we have to do is to get the billing systems straightened out. This we are working on through a test case.

## AND WE THANK YOU

We want to sincerely thank the almost 200 residents of our community who attended the quarterly meeting of the Association on the 30th of June. This number of interested people right at the beginning of vacation time, and also the number of younger folks who came along, once again confirms that all of us can be proud of the tangible things which we have achieved, and the support which remains. It was, we hope, an informative meeting reflecting a cohesive Executive Board, and we were gratified by the excellent comments we received on the films which were shown. Our sincere thanks go to Bob Christian for assisting us in planning this meeting.

## LET US KNOW

In the past, practically in each Newsletter, we have encouraged all our residents to report incidents to us. Each time this request has been coupled with the advice that this notification is done in addition to calling the police. The reason why we feel we should know is twofold. First, because by knowing when and where what type of incidents are occurring, we can most specifically request the right type of police assistance. Second, because we are a community, and we can help each other and benefit from the experience factors which we have gained in dealing collectively as a cohesive unit with County and other authorities.

## LET US KNOW

## REGISTER TO VOTE

As you know, not only by our Constitution and By-Laws, but as a matter of principle, this Board and this Association is completely non-partisan in political matters. We work with the elected representative to the Board of Supervisors because that is the proper way to get things done. We are now approaching an election--at our October meeting we anticipate having all of the candidates for the Board at our meeting so that we may hear and meet them--in the interim, may we use this short little note to encourage all of our 18-20 year old age group residents to register so that they may vote this, their first, time. Our precinct registrar is Polly Barnes on Waterford.

## FOR THE PARENTS

For the teens and their parents, here's the tentative schedule for formal club events for the coming weeks:

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|---|---|
| Rap-in for Jr. High school age youngsters | - Wed. 4th of June at 8:30 P.M.<br>at Barbara Haley's house on<br>Duxbury Court |
| Ocean City Beach Party-call Peggy Steele  | - Monday Aug. 9th - 9:00 A.M.   |
| Teen Club Sponsored SRA Pool Party/Dance  | - Sat. Aug. 14th - 8:30 P.M.  |
| Ocean City Beach Party-call Denise Bell   | - Monday Aug. 23rd - 9:00 A.M.  |
| Big Fall Battle of the Brass - Dance      | - Sat. Sept. 11th Ft. Hunt. Elem.   |



Please encourage and make available for reading the attached Newsletter of the Teen Club for your teens, and support their participation in scheduled events. A word about the beach parties--each of these is offered to the members at a cost much less than expenses. Still, the youngsters don't sign up 'til the last minute. This creates unbelievable troubles. The cost for the member is \$4.00 and \$6.00 for the non-members--the bus ride is fully supervised, and in all the trips which have taken place, not a single even small incident has occurred.

## NEWS ON SEWERAGE

We thought you'd like to know that in addition to the State Water Control Authority having granted the County in excess of \$4,000,000 for work on the local sewerage disposal plants, the County is rightfully proud of the fact that, although the flow into our plant is still way over its anticipated capacity, the removal of BOD containing elements this summer has been around 90%. This is a remarkable increase of removal of those elements which create algae and while some of us have a tendency to "knock" our local government quite often, we also ought to give them some recognition for doing good work.

## HELP US TO HELP YOU

Our residents can be of measurable assistance to us and to themselves if they would be good enough to address letters to us which we will forward to appropriate County officials commenting on the work which has been done by Officer Lockhart in our community during this month. If you have met him, if you have seen him, if he has helped you in one way or another, won't you please take the time to drop a letter off at 2321 Wittington now, while you think about it? It is not just idle talk, it is a fact--the influence, the power of the citizenry once heard from is one of the most heartening and encouraging things about living in Fairfax County.

## THE FIRE STATION

Lud Lippert and Gene Severs who worked very diligently compiling the results of the survey on the future disposition of the Mt. Vernon Volunteer Fire Station on Ft. Hunt Road were very gratified by the 24% returned questionnaires. Naturally, all of us who have and continue to spend an awful lot of time on this problem would have preferred to have seen a much much wider response, but we figure 24% is better than less. The results, as discussed in detail at the last general membership meeting, were interesting and were very definitive. They certainly gave us the instructions for which we asked. 84% did not wish us to favor the establishment of a special tax district, nor take other steps to turn that facility into a community center facility. There have been further developments. They are in a state of flux. Competent citizen leaders from the surrounding communities under our chairmanship are researching and investigating. As committed, when a final recommendation/decision stems from the special committee, it will be brought to your attention for your reaction. The County is leasing the facility for three years, and does contemplate using it, or at least part of it, for County administrative purposes, and that is a right step in the right direction to preclude commercialization.

## OUR WORK WITH THE COUNCIL

Should you not have been at our quarterly meeting, you should know that the work of this Association within the Mt. Vernon Council continues to be active, and we feel tangibly productive--we are extremely pleased that we have been able to fill the vacancy on the Education Committee by two eminently qualified residents--both Sarah Collette and Marv Weissman now represent



us on this very important committee, and both are well qualified for that post. Naturally, they and all other standing committee representatives are members of our Executive Board, and as such, are an integral part of this Association.

The work of Jim Bambery as head of the Council Transportation Committee continues to receive universal acclaim. He has completed considerable work and has received Council approval for a comprehensive long range and short range greater Washington, D. C. transportation plan, and his work has been instrumental in getting express bus service from the Huntington station down to Route 95 and into the District. Do make contact with Jim to get details on the intensive work he is doing in guiding and leading his committee. By the way, Jim has started the ball rolling about doing something relevant to that narrow bridge on Collingwood. He has our full support, and let's wish him luck.

Dr. Bruce Collette as our representative for Environmental Affairs is doing outstanding work, and is the right man, with the right background, in the right job. His work is considered invaluable by those in the environmental and ecological sector.

Kay and Rich Schulherr are our double salvo for Health and Welfare, and continuing progress towards construction of the hospital on the Harrelson tract is proof of their work.

## GOOD THINGS COMING

Planning way ahead, but it is necessary, we think. We will feature and sponsor two great events this coming fall and early winter which should meet with universal approval. On Sunday afternoon the 28th of November, the entire USAF Symphony of the Air will be in concert at Ft. Hunt. The following Sunday, we will sponsor a concert by the Airmen of Note and the Singing Sergeants also at Ft. Hunt, both times in the auditorium, and both will be free of charge. These are great organizations, and between them, should appeal to just about every taste. We hope, as usual, we can count on your support to make them great successes.

## COMING UP

To assist the block captains in greeting new residents, to have a permanent handbook for the community, we are now putting together a nice publication which will tell what we do, who we are, what we've done, and other things of interest to new residents.

## APPOINTMENT TO COUNCIL

As you may know, Peter Brinitzer is a member of the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice and Law Enforcement Advisory Council, and Chairman of its Prevention Task Force, and it is this council which acts upon all applications for monies available to the State under the Federal Safe Streets and Crime Omnibus Act. Now, the Board of Supervisors has appointed Pete to the newly formed County Criminal Justice Council which will coordinate County actions and functions within this realm. Active membership on these bodies speaks well for the community, and gives it appropriate non-governmental, non-political citizens' representation which is always desirable.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Our honorable treasurer is on vacation, and her report is not contained in the Newsletter. Less than \$100 has been spent this month, and you will have your accustomed report in the next edition.



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 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
Sara Collette, 360-5188 Education Rep.	Dr. Bruce Collette 360-5188 Environment Comm. Rep.	Kay Schulherr, 780-1297 Health & Welfare Rep.
Marv Weissman, 360-4276 Education Rep.	Shirley Faulkner, 780-1968 Newsletter Assistant	Jim Bambery, 780-7495 Transportation Rep.

## PERSONAL ITEMS

Recycling Drive - The Students for Environmental Action are expanding their recycling drives to also accommodate Glass & Aluminum materials along with Paper articles. These Recycling Drives will be held on the following dates: July 31, August 21, September 11, later dates will be posted. The time? 8:30 to 11:30 A.M. All items of the above will be welcome. Glass and Aluminum articles will be taken to the Springfield Plaza Recycling Center. Paper articles will be recycled at Alexandria Scrap. We would also appreciate if any person or group is interested in making and exhibiting projects relating to the environment on Oct. 3. Call 768-2920 or 360-7909. The Environmental Fair will be open to all interested people at Fort Hunt Park on Oct. 3 at a time to be set.

The Fairfax County Activities Center for Retarded Adults, Eastern Division is in full operation now between 9-2:30 (summer) 9-3:00 (fall) at the Mt. Vernon Presbyterian Church at 2001 Sherwood Hall Lane. Our morning drives are adequately staffed, but afternoon drivers and volunteers to aid in the program are still needed. Can you help? Please call Mrs. Freeman, 765-2060.

Wanted--for Oak Meadow Nursing Home Arts and Crafts Program--clean old nylon stockings, beads and other old jewelry, large scrap material. Please call 765-6108, or deliver to 1510 Collingwood Road.

Notary Public - A. R. Powell, 2405 Cavendish Dr., 780-1929, Monday thru Sat.

Wanted to Buy - Portable electric typewriter--call Mrs. Rogers, 780-4764.

Wanted: Babysitter, 4 days a week for 2½ mo. old baby girl, your house or mine. Please call 360-4524 after six o'clock.

Wanted: Care for school age boy for six weeks, starting Sept. 7 from 7 to 8:45 A.M. and 3:30 to 5 p.m. school days. Call Mrs. Phalen at 962-2450 during the day, and 780-3578 after 5 p.m.

For Sale: 71 Honda, 175CB 2050 miles, best offer. Call 780-8646.

For Sale: Black and gold Spanish Sofa, \$110. Call Mrs. Rogers, 780-4764.

For Sale: 1965 Corvair, needs \$17 investment (clutch cable) \$65 780-5948.

For Sale: Round dining room table with leaves (2). Hard Rock Maple, good condition. Four ladder back chairs to match, two w/arms. \$150 780-3312.

For Sale: Black Labrador Retriever puppies (no white marks) Exceptional, sound, and very healthy. Call Kathy Karwaki, 780-5984.

For Sale: Complete set Encyclopedia Americana, 30 vol. 1949 ed. \$25. Ten volume set Children's Classics, \$10 set. Family gym set, complete, brand new, \$35 complete, for information on previous items, call 780-1403.

Available - 2 teen age girls for odd jobs--mother's helper, babysitting, pet care, etc. Call Kathy 780-0272.

Lost: Seiko man's watch w/white wrist band, REWARD. Call 780-9090.

Lost: Boy's Red racing bike, 10 speed, 780-3752.

Lost: Boy's Red Stingray Huffy, 20" 780-0226.

Lost: Purple w/white banana seat, (Murray) 780-3746.

Lost: Boy's Orange Stingray, orange banana seat 780-7592

Lost: Purple girl's bike, white and purple banana seat, hand brakes 780-7592.

Lost: Girl's standara, blue, 24" new back tire 780-2731.

Lost: Boy's orange 3 speed front brake, 780-2731.

Found: Boy's blue regular bike, w/lock, black seat Schwinn Speedmaster, 780-

Found: Boy's gold 26" standard, black seat, (Atkins) ser.no.241138 2857.

call 780-1205.