

NEWSLETTER

Stratford Landing • Mt. Vernon District • Fairfax County

EVENTS COMING UP

It's getting to be that time of year again when slowly, things are beginning to wake up after the freeze-in. What's coming up? Between now and May a number of events which should be of interest to you. The annual spring garage sale will be held in the community which will give you a chance to clean out your garages and storage areas. We again plan to have a childrens carnival with games, contests, prizes, hot dogs and soft drinks, ponies and all kind of rides. We're going to sponsor a concert (outdoors on the Fort Hunt athletic field) of the Marine Corps showband, the drum and bugle corps, the drill team and color guard and that should be an event for the entire family for sure! We haven't had a theater party this season and depending on the reaction we get at the general membership meeting, we plan to launch one of these once again enabling you and the little woman to go to the National Theater or Kennedy Center for a show without having to get the tickets yourself or going through any fuss or bother because it'll all be arranged for you and give a lot of neighbors in the community a chance to socialize together and get a planned night out. All in all, realizing that everything takes time and effort we hope you can see that this association offers something for everyone in which to participate.

MONEY & HOW TO SPEND IT ?!

What to do with "excess" funds in the association treasury? At the last meeting and subsequent newsletter we asked for suggestions from the membership to what needs existed which could be helped along by some association contributions. We did receive some suggestions. Quite a few as a matter of fact. Enough for the Board to have spent considerable time discussing what constitutes surplus funds, what possible contributions would benefit the most residents and how could any possible surpluses best be applied. The next newsletter which will formally announce the next general membership meeting will carry a draft resolution from the Board containing its recommendation and rationale. It will be up to the membership present and voting at this meeting on March 30th as to what happens to any potentially surplus funds. Hence your attendance is important at this meeting to avoid the meeting being "packed," the activists getting their way and then others, who were not there complaining, after the fact, that the decisions made were not proper to their way of thinking.

LET US KNOW

The Martens Tract is that land between Beacon Hill Road and the Martha Washington Public Library along Ft. Hunt Road and around the corner on Beacon Hill Road. It is not in our immediate vicinity. However, very considerable effort was put in by numerous civic groups in the District to persuade the Park Authority to purchase this land for a district park. The Park Authority in turn expended considerable effort to finally purchase this very valuable land as a District Park for Mt. Vernon residents. Now the Park Authority has requested the Mt. Vernon Council of Civic Associations to assist it in gauging the desires of District residents as to what should be done with the land and how it could best be exploited for recreational and related purposes. It would be greatly appreciated if you would be good enough to glance at the attached survey which is being distributed by the Council, annotate it as requested and return it to the mail box at 2321 Wittington Blvd so that we might participate in this District wide effort.

THE CREEK ISSUE

THE CREEK ISSUE

There have been some issues which highlight that there are as many opinions and positions as there are residents. For a civic association and its officers (who are in the lowest and therefore the most direct echelon of representation) to properly represent the residents on such issues is, at best most difficult. First, there is that great silent majority constituting about 80% of the community. One very seldomly hears from it. Some may surface for one specific issue and then fade away again. Then there are those who have direct opinions and positions and they are at opposite ends of the spectrum. This Board, when having to make a binding decision has called special meetings, has disseminated surveys to gauge the opinion of all of its residents. That has been for issues where a positive position had to be taken which was irrevocable. When it came to the possible dredging of the creek, we submitted status reports from the very outset. We spent time on the subject at the general membership meeting. On six different occasions, this newsletter carried detailed information about public hearings, the need to come up with a community position and always, repeatedly asking for interested persons to participate in the work of a committee which we established. A total of 18 residents (out of 633 members) expressed interest. Out of that 18, less than half actually attended one or any meetings of the committee. In the last newsletter, before the public hearing, we devoted two full pages to the position which the Board had decided to take. We mentioned that the subject would be brought up at the next general membership meeting and that the position the Board was taking was for a public hearing only and that whatever action was taken by the general membership would carry equal weight with the appropriate authorities at that time. Not one call was received opposing the position published in that newsletter. However, as the date for public hearings approached, the pressure built up unbelievably. Both from those who became suddenly very apprehensive about environmental and ecological aspects and those, on the other end of the spectrum, who very decisively insisted that this association go on record in favor of possible creek actions. Despite the occasional ill will, considerable pressure, misunderstandings as to where the Board stood, we resisted deviating from our published position, assuming that ours represented the will of the general membership and we took a position of moderation. It is easy to criticize, it is easy to pick one or the other issue and condemn the position taken by the elected representatives. It is much harder to stand up and be counted realizing that nothing one does will ever meet with universal approval and that all that can be done is to try to communicate, try to examine and re-examine motives and use judgment, separating it from sheer emotion and rumors.

There shall be a general membership meeting on Thursday, the 30th of March. All are invited and urged to come. We especially urge those to attend and speak, properly prepared, who favor one or the other of the diametrically opposed viewpoints. We shall have at the meeting representatives from the District Corps of Engineer Office in Baltimore, the County Environmental Affairs Office and the County Manager's Office as well as our District Supervisor. These guests will be there to lend expertise, to ascertain that facts are kept straight and to respond to questions. We will place only one restriction on the discussion of this subject and that is to limit it to members of our community. We do hope that it is realized that as volunteers we are trying to do the best we know how to continue to make this the best, active, constructive and all around civic association and that your good will and support are needed.

LET'S KEEP HAVING THEM

Earlier this month, for the fourth time in as many years, this association sponsored a concert of the Fairfax County Symphony Orchestra at Ft. Hunt High School on a Sunday afternoon. It was, by far, the best of the four concerts this volunteer group has put on for us. It was also the first time in the four years that there was no advanced ticket sale through our block captain system. This probably was the reason why attendance was not as good as in previous years as far as our own community is concerned. We sincerely thank those families which did come; we were able to turn over all of the admission costs to the Orchestra to make it possible for it to continue its very worthwhile efforts and we know that those who came thoroughly enjoyed it. We continue to think that attempting to bring family entertainment to the immediate vicinity of our community is a part of the proper function of a civic association and we hope that come next year we will be able to sponsor and get your support for the fifth annual concert.

GOOD SHOW

This community faces considerable mobility throughout the year. People are moving in and out quite consistently. Therefore, despite a very well functioning volunteer block captain system, it is difficult to determine just how many homes are occupied at any one given time. Hence, to determine exactly how many members this association has at any one given time is also difficult. As of this month, 633 families belong to this association by having paid their dues and we are pleased that yet another year and another membership drive has been concluded with such a fine almost 100% membership participation. The directory is now going to the printer and we are in the process of gathering sufficient advertising for the directory to make it self-sustaining. We are trying to limit advertisers to those who are residents of the Stratford area we represent. Hence, we ask that if you are engaged in the type business which would benefit by having 633 families look at your advertising just about daily for at least two years, contact 780-2857 or 780-9388 immediately and we can still ascertain that your ad gets into the directory. At the time, should you be a brand new resident, should you not have made contact with your block captain or she with you, please call the above two numbers and ascertain that your name and attending data get into the directory.

T'WAS A GOOD THING !

By the time you read this, there is a good chance that what was the skating rinks is a large pond. But, despite a really mixed up winter, the skating rinks did squeeze in a good number of days of operation. The guys and gals from the teen club have spent indeterminable hours monitoring the rink. Each night it got cold, teams were there till midnight to make sure that no one threw logs into it, purposely broke the surface or just plain vandalized it. Each potential freeze or skate day, the young people were on duty cleaning it, making and keeping fires going, regulating traffic, administering first aid, and assisting in getting it ready for the next day. We were fortunate this year that fire trucks put on the necessary water. All of this work and time has put a dent into our treasury and we have not asked for contributions this year because there have been so few days when actual skating was possible. But the hundreds of kids and some adults who used it proved how popular the rinks are and the kind of void they fill. Here's hoping that next year we get a "better" kind of winter and we can exploit the rinks that much more.

LOVE THY NEIGHBOR !

During this past month, despite the bad weather, call after call came to us complaining about thievery of tires, wheels, the interiors of cars, children breaking down backyard fences, animals being escorted during the evening hours to do their business on their neighbors' yards and all the other "little" complaints so typical of suburbia. All of them basically fall into the same categories. We simply must learn that there is such a thing as the general health & welfare which rightfully to some degree impede's our personal rights. Walking a dog is just great - standing there and seeing him ruin the plants and grass of the neighbor, letting him clean the mess your pet left just doesn't make much sense - does it? Please understand, the offended are very hesitant to bring undesirable acts to the attention of their neighbors because they don't know how the neighbor will react, whether there could or would be vandalism of the complainer's house the next night. They call us. That's the way it should be. We, for the good of the community then do our best to try to tactfully and diplomatically eliminate the causes of friction. Life is so short. There are so many good and relatively important things which should concern us. Let's please love our neighbor as ourselves and see to it that the kids don't create frustrations, cause damage and show disrespect - that pets are contained and most importantly that we are notified along with the police when vandalism and theft or other irregularities occur.

LET US KNOW

Driving through the community one notices that in certain areas the roads appear in very bad shape. In other areas, asphalt has been torn up for repair work. On some corners stop signs or speed limit signs have disappeared. We have an outstanding record in getting either the county or the State Highway authorities into the community to do required repairs. However, nothing can be done by us or the authorities to correct deficiencies unless we are aware of them. We would greatly appreciate it if you would be good enough to call us (780-9388) to let us know what needs to be done and where.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash Balance As Of 14 January 1972

\$1,482.72

RECEIPTS

Late Dues	109.00	1,591.72
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DISBURSEMENTS

Rink Salaries, 17 Jan	108.75
Xmas Candy	9.62
Rink Supplies	49.64
Rink Salaries, 3 Feb	71.25
Change (symphony ticket sales)	35.00
Rink Salaries, 7 Feb	13.50
January Newsletter	48.82
Rink Salaries, 15 Feb	<u>190.00</u>

\$526.58

TOTAL CASH ON HAND

1,065.14

SAVINGS AND C.D.

2,201.22

Int of C.D. (2/14/72)	<u>12.50</u>
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\$2,213.72

TOTAL ASSETS

\$3,278.86

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
Lud 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.		Jim Bambery, 780-7495 Transportation Rep.

OTHER ORGS' NEWS

Ft Hunt Band Fund Drive - Events coming up !

GARAGE SALE - February 26 - Saturday - At the Fire House again! Time 9:00 - 2:00PM. We need lots of donations. Do contact people leaving the area for items. Any large items can be picked up. We do have some storage space available. Call 765-6056 for help on pick-up and storage. Other items may be taken to the Fire House on Friday (February 25) after 1:00PM.

CONCERT BAND CONCERT - March 1 - In Auditorium. Tickets will be available from band members.

CEDAR KNOLL - SPECIAL DINNER THEATER PERFORMANCES TO BENEFIT BAND DRIVE!! The Cedar Knoll Inn has reserved four performances of its hit musical - "Stop the World - I Want To Get Off!" to benefit our fund raising efforts. Proceeds from the evening shows of March 2, 3, 4 and 5 will be donated to the Fort Hunt High School Band. MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS NOW!! For further information call Mrs John Murphy, 360-3324.

CLOTHING SALE - March 11 - Hybla Valley Grand Union Store. Time 10:00 - 2:00PM. Here is an opportunity to clean out your closet and help the fund raising efforts. These are said to be very successful and the clothing sells like "hot cakes." For further information on donations to be picked up or stored call Mrs Howard Eagin, 780-7811.

Man's World, 7966 Fort Hunt Road, in the Hollin Hall Shopping Center, has offered to give to the Fort Hunt High School Band 10% off all sales tickets which are turned into Mr Wickes (or members of the band or the band room). (Sales merchandise is not included).

When you make purchases at Man's World, if you are unable to conveniently turn them in, please call one of these numbers and we will have someone pick up the ticket (780-2786, 765-6056, 780-9160). Thank you for supporting your band.

HELP THE PROGRAM

Head Start is an alive program, reaching out to meet the needs of economically and culturally deprived four year old children and their families. These programs are designed to reduce the educational, social and medical handicaps of the child before he enters kindergarden, thereby making school a more satisfying and successful experience. .

Volunteers, who love little children and have a few hours to devote to enriching their lives, or are willing to do occasional driving for denial or medical appointments, are being sought for the 12 Centers in the Fairfax County Schools Head Start Program. One of these Centers is located at Stratford Landing Elementary School.

To find out how you can help, please call the Head Start Office at 938-1910.

NOW, Ft HUNT ELE NEEDS YOU!!!!

The Ft. Hunt Elementary Library Committee is busy setting up the new library. They are working on Tuesday mornings at the school. Won't you please come help? Just come or if you have any questions, call Barbara Lopez, 780-1610.

GOOD DEAL !

The Officers Wives Garden Club of Ft Belvoir is offering the opportunity to now order and subsequently pick up a variety of different colored azaleas, four years old, hardy bed grown plants at 75¢ each based on volume buying. Please call K Heiberg, 780-5585 for details.

OTHER ORGS' NEWS

PERSONAL ITEMS

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FOR SALE:

Scott's 2 Vol Standard Stamp Catalogue & Scott's US Stamp Catalogue, Spec, 1970, Publ Price \$23.00, Exc Cond - \$10.00 - (780-1773)

2 G78x15 Goodyear Polyglass Tire & Set of Matching Tire Chains; Less Than 1 Yr Old, Exc Cond - \$60.00 - Trade for Skis - 6'4" Man & 5'5" Woman or Skates, sizes 12&6 - (780-2361)

Sears Kenmore Dual Cycle Undercounter Auto Dishwasher Model #5877161, New, Yellow, 115v., 60cycle AC - \$70.00 - (780-8207)

Early American Oak Bookcase, Like New, 28x17x31"high - \$18.00; Good Used Frigidaire Refrig - \$40.00 - (780-9025)

23" 1970 B&W TV, Orig Cost \$172.00, best offer; 4 bar stools, Green Vinyl Cov, Cromecraft, best offer; 2 Evening Dresses, Yellow, Used Once, size 12 - (780-3522)

B&W TV, RCA Deluxe Console, 21", Fits in Corner, Good Cond - \$40.00 - (780-1977)

Woman's Figure Skates, White, Size 4, Worn Twice - \$10.00 - (360-4378)

Black Hooded Rats, 8 weeks - \$1.00 each - (780-8914)

6 Tw Size Bedroom Randall DeLuxe House avail April 1 - 1 br, main fl w/private entrance opening to patio&garden; all elec kit (GE); bkfst rm w/bay window; fam size screen porch off fam rm w/raised hearth, brick wall fireplace; lg liv rm w/bay window&xtra lge sep dining rm; gar w/laundry&stge area; xtras incl spec lighting&fixtures, xtra custom blt closets upstairs&rec type bsmt; all sea storm windows; prof landscaped, elev wood lot. Refinance up to 80% @ 7%/assume 5 3/4% mort, get \$10,000 2d Trust - (780-2331)

Skates:	Girls Sizes	1 & 3	(360-5188)	Boys Sizes	7 & 4	(780-2736)
	" "	1 & 5	(780-1486)	Mens Size	11	(360-3488)
	" "	3 & 5	(780-2940)			
	" "	1	(360-7189)			
	" "	3	(360-3953)			

WANTED:

Skates:	Girls Sizes	10-11	(780-3652)	Mens Sizes	9;	Women Size	7	(360-4822)
	" "	8	(360-4790)	Boys Size	5			(360-3944)
	" "	7	(360-7189)	" "	4			(780-7647)
	" "	4 & 5	(360-3953)					
	" "	11	(780-2914)					

CAR POOL to NAVY YD AREA - Share Expenses - (360-4095)

EMPLOYMENT FOR DANISH GIRL, Exc Stu 23, Visiting Rel Mar - Jul-Lt Housekeep/ChildCare - Flex hrs - (780-1077)

TO BUY - HOUSE, 4 br, 2 bath, sep din rm - NEED AUG 1-WRITE LTC CE Aamodt, 1161Queensbury Dr, Montgomery Ala 36111

FOUND: Sil Anniv Gift, Inter Londonderry&Highgate Jan 21 (780-3917); Zodiac Necklace (360-476)

NOTARY PUBLIC: A.R. Powell, 2405 Cavendish (780-1929)

CANDLES MADE TO ORDER (780-9189)