



# NEWSLETTER

Vol XI

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Stratford Landing • Mt. Vernon District • Fairfax County

## STRATFORD & THE ENERGY CRISIS

This is, what we consider, an important newsletter. We hope that you'll read this lead article and then go on. As your elected community spokesmen and representatives, we wish to bring the following matters to your attention and urgently request your consideration for the recommendations reached by your Executive Board.

There is an energy crisis. Just how far reaching it is, none of us really know. We know that the speed limit is down. We know there is real talk of rationing, closing of gas stations, possible taxation on gasoline and numerous other measures.

We consider this to be national problem, something far transcending partisan politics. Hence, we feel that all of us should, in this community, take the lead. Show the rest of the District, County just what can be done by one concerned community. Concomitantly, what we are about to propose will affect your pocketbook. It will save on wear and tear on your car. Purchase of gasoline. Reduction on car insurance, save your nerves, stop your fighting traffic, protect you from rain and cold weather.

First, we propose charter bus service from our community to where you work and back home. The bus(es) are air-conditioned and heated. They will start in the cul-de-sac on Stirrup, drive all the way down Stirrup, stopping at each corner, drive right down all of Camden, stopping at each intersection and then drive out of the community at Wittington. From there, as an example, the bus will head straight nonstop for the Pentagon. No North or South Parking. Door-to-door service with the reverse schedule in the evening. From the Pentagon it could go on to Rosslyn and then terminate there to start at Rosslyn at night, go to the Pentagon and thence to our community nonstop. Variation? Certainly!! It, or any number of other busses could go direct to the Pentagon only, stop at Crystal City, etc. Yet another bus could go from here right to the Federal Triangle or any other destination(s) warranting service.

### \$1500 SUBSIDY

Here are the details. The County Board has approved \$1500 in subsidies to any civic association et al., which shows its good intent by going it alone for 30 days.

After that, for a period of six months it will subsidize such bus service up to \$250 a month for six months. Each bus seats 52 persons comfortably. The cost is \$50 one way each day. That means it would cost each rider \$2.00 per day to get to and from work. No gas, no wear and tear, no parking fees, no walking, no getting cold and wet, no fighting the traffic, the companionship of neighbors and friends; it could mean eliminating the need for that second or third car; less insurance because you're not using the car to get to and from work.

Here's what we need. If we get, let's say 30 riders the first month, each would be charged \$2.00 each day payable for a month ahead of time. The civic association would pay the rest each day (for that first month). After showing the doubters how good a thing this is, the ridership would increase. If it increased to 50 then we would be paying for the bus ourselves. If not, then we would request the county to subsidize us, month by month, for six months, up to \$250.00 each month to enable us to make it possible for those joining the program to do it by paying no more than \$2.00 per day.

What time would a bus leave? Where would each bus go and where would it let off our residents on the way? How many buses, going where, could be swung? All legitimate questions. We'll have the answers IF you go along and support us by filling in the slip below. The key is not when you leave home but when do you have to be at work. Also remember, we are in a crisis situation. This is not becoming panicky, or melodramatic or over playing it. We have a crisis and as good citizens we ought to do our bit. Hence, you might have to coordinate with your office to come in a half hour early or late if that is the only way we can swing one or any number of buses. Let's ALL pitch in on this. It makes sense from a personal, even pecuniary standpoint. Pragmatically, if we don't do this now, there's a limit to the buses which will be available. What happens when the price of gas goes up and up. What if it IS rationed? Regardlessly, we all think it's the right, the American way of pitching in and helping out when the going is a bit rough. There'll always be those who feel they cannot participate because they have to work late - who knows perhaps joining a bus pool such as this will serve as an incentive to cut down need(?) to work late very frequently or, if there is enough interest, there may be a bus to a destination more than once, i.e., leaving let's say at 5:10 p.m. and again at 5:30 p.m. so, in short, it's all up to you.

We all felt this is the time to stand up and be counted. Our Board of Supervisors has done it's part with their offer to subsidize - let's show them we are behind them - let's set the example!! Fill out the slip below and place it in the mail box at either 2321 Wittington Blvd. or 2614 Culpepper - but DO IT NOW - PLEASE - NOT A WEEK OR MONTH FROM NOW - we're volunteering to launch this program - it'll take work - make it possible for us not to start the first bus with 30 or 40, let's fill up right from the start - remember if we don't, the difference of what is paid the first month and what it costs, comes out of the money in OUR treasury, and, if the amount is higher than what we, as the Board are authorized to spend, we'll have to call a special meeting of the Association to get permission to spend money that first month. Pitch in, help us to help you, to help in a tight situation. If you have questions, call 780-9388.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS(Street# only) \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE AT HOME \_\_\_\_\_ TIME AT WORK \_\_\_\_\_ AM/TIME LEAVING WORK \_\_\_\_\_ PM  
DESTINATION AT WORK/CHECK ONE: PENTAGON \_\_\_\_\_ ROSSLYN \_\_\_\_\_ CRYSTAL CITY AREA \_\_\_\_\_  
FEDERAL TRIANGLE AREA (12TH & PENN AREA) \_\_\_\_\_ STATE DEPT AREA \_\_\_\_\_  
OTHER: PLEASE WRITE IN THE STREET NAME AND/OR GENERAL AREA \_\_\_\_\_

# STRATFORD & XMAS DECORATIONS

## STRATFORD'S ATTITUDE

Let's go on - our second tangible decision: Christmas is a great time but, with energy being at a premium, with the amount of vandalism we've had, here's what we are suggesting to this community for this Christmas season: Let's NOT use electric outdoor decorations! When we saved hundreds of dollars re insurance premiums, water pressure reducing valves and the like, the response was great. When we suggested let's have trick and treat between certain hours only, the response was magnificent. Now, let's all get together once again! Instead of our annual Christmas Decorating Contest being judged at night, this year it'll be judged on Sunday the 23rd of December in the afternoon. We're looking forward to each and every house being decorated on the outside. The doors, the windows, the balconies, the gas lights, shrubbery, - let's use our imagination and really get into the spirit for the sake of the season and our children, BUT without lights!! Every little bit helps, if we start it and the word spreads, those who do use lights will simply broadcast that, rather than being individualists, they just simply don't seem to care that ALL OF US have a problem and that this is just another small, possibly insignificant little act, we are performing to show we care!! Perhaps the time has come for all of us as Americans to get just a little bit of esprit de corps - a sense of pride - regardless of how we feel about this or that! Right here, through unity of action and cooperation we can bring all of us closer together - perhaps that will be a far greater benefit than the small inconveniences which may fall on us because of a national problem.

### CARS & GASOLINE

Let's go on a little bit further, because this is what your Executive Board discussed in great detail. How many youngsters drive cars to and from school. Do they really have to? (Especially if you'll be using a bus to go to work - if the price of gas goes up or gas is rationed?) If your youngsters work and hence need the car, are they working only to support their (or your) car? Certainly wouldn't hurt them to pitch in and use that bike would it? You will be surprised how much money it'll save you and how it'll help gasoline consumption

### THERMOSTAT TEMPERATURE

How hot is your water? 150, 140, 130 degrees? Did you know that 120 degrees is considered scalding? Turn down that thermostat on your water heater to 120 degrees - that won't hurt!!! It'll save YOU money and save energy!!

How about your house - use the fireplace and set your thermostat down to 68 degrees. You'll be surprised how much less sluggish you'll feel and THAT will save you money AND help save energy.

### THAT GAS LIGHT

How about that gas light? Public safety probably indicates that despite street lights it ought to stay on, BUT why not turn it down a bit - it'll help - it's just a question of attitude. Perhaps some think all of this is corny, superpatriotic, robbing people of their individualism - all of us on the Board have demonstrated our moderation over and over again but, when the chips are down, that's the time to take stock and make SMALL adjustments!!

### ETCETERA

We'll talk to the county to make sure that the tennis court lights in our park get turned off when not specifically in use and perhaps all of us can think about turning off some of the lights throughout the house when not needed - again it'll save YOUR mondy and reduce energy consumption. Think of it, make it a family thing - the youngsters know all about it from school - let's NOT have to limit educational facilities and the like, let's do our part to keep things going without the need for drastic action - remember too, we're better off still than were our parents or theirs and probably the people in any other country.

## HERE COMES SANTA

Elsewhere, Christmas decorations held the spot light. Now about Santa!! Yes, he'll be back in Stratford this year - that is if he isn't too busy working on all those toys. We've made arrangements, tentative of course, for Santa and his helpers to come into our community on Saturday afternoon beginning at 2:30 PM - he'll be on top of the fire engine, (might even fly over the community in his helicopter) go through each street in the community and, if he's true to form, there'll be plenty of candy for all the children, so, keep the date and time in mind - Saturday, the 22nd starting at 2:30 PM.

## LET'S HAVE THEM BACK

Quite a while back now, we coordinated a concerted community effort relevant to the protection of private property through Project Identification - there were decals for the homes, inventorie blanks and most importantly, engravers with which loads of neighbors engraved their Social Security numbers on bikes, TV's, cameras, and the like. Guess what, all three engravers are gone! Probably our fault for not keeping better track but, there were so many who used them that we just couldn't keep control. Would those who have the engravers PLEASE bring them back so that others may use them? If embarrassed, just put them in the mail box at 2321 Wittington Blve. Sure would appreciate it!! By the way, if you'd like stickers to place on your phone with the Police and Fire number on them or the Project ID stickers for your home, just give us a call.

## MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS HELP

Gene Seevers, our representative to the Council's Health and Welfare Committee reports that Mrs. Harriet Marx of the Mt. Vernon Center for Mental Health which will move into its new and permanent location next to the forthcoming hospital and the fire station on Sherwood Hall Lane, is in bad need of volunteer workers. The need ranges from professionals, to para-professionals, to plain old simple volunteers to work in the myriads of interesting tasks. The Mental Health Center is a great and not well enough known County Service and a call to Mrs. Marx at 451-1246 is a good idea to volunteer, get more details and just see what kind of services are available to you and the members of your family.

## THE DIRTY TRICK DEPT

We didn't feel we ought to do it on our own - we brought it before the general membership meeting - we received the go ahead. We'll have speed traps in our community. They'll be spaced and timed so as to not pick on any special age group, etc. But writing about speed trap brings up the dirty trick chronology for the month! The key of eliminating them is you. We've had proof of this in the past weeks. There are empty homes. Youngsters have used them for drinking parties and the like - disturbed the neighborhood where there has been vandalism and destruction of personal property. The neighbor were alert. The offenders were apprehended and booked, charges were preferred. We've had a number of accidents caused by speeding and dragging. A whole bunch of cars had their windows smashed, tires slashed. A number of new residents worked very hard to come up with exemplary lawns. Would you believe that some nut drove right straight through all that newly planted grass? Hard to believe, but true. What can you do? First, work with your neighbors. Where there is an unoccupied house, keep an eye on it and care!! If your neighbor is out of town, watch his property - get his key and check the house. If there are cars parked for longer periods which you know don't belong to a neighbor, take a license number. The important thing is to be passively involved. No drastic acts, but observe and, most importantly let us know. Unless we get reports, we do not know what occurs and we cannot request from the police, public works, the park authority and others, the kinds of assistance and service which we have proven come to us when the association represents and speaks for the community. We don't mind being called out, but, we cannot do our job for you unless we know ..... 780-9388.

## COMMUNITY ENTRY SIGNS

It didn't take nearly as long as some of the pessimists on the board had feared and the decision of the membership was quite clear. We now have the mandate to go ahead and plan for and get entry signs for our community. Our VP, Lynn Adams is going to be the chief "honcho" for this major undertaking. We'll be working with the County Park Authority to get their advice, possibly use some of their expertise and we'll ask the Stratford Women's Club to help with beautification and upkeep. There'll be one sign like now adorns Stratford Lane which will point to Elkin Street at the corner of Ft. Hunt and Elkin and this will be a white and green sign from the State Highway Department. There will be three "Riverside Estate" type signs one each on the old Burma Road now called Camden Causeway, at Riverside and Cavendish and along Wittington off Elkin. It'll take a lot of work, loads of coordination and the like, it'll cost money which the membership approved for spending for this purpose. It was agreed by an overwhelming majority that this activity will further enhance the community. If you'd like to help with the planning and possibly some of the supervision (and work), do give Lynn Adams a call. He'll appreciate it!!

## THE DIRECTORY & MEMBERSHIP

Wallpaper work, Interior Decorators, Carpet Cleaning Service, Termite Control, Radio & TV Sales and Service, Real Estate Agents, Insurance Company Representatives, Attorneys at Law, Notary Publics, Beauty Parlor owners, Cosmetology Schools, and so on - these are but some of the activities which our residents do. Now, the biannual directory for the community is in the final stages of planning. Why not advertise in it? It'll be used by more than 700 homes with an average of five or more occupants in each. It's a tax deductible advertising expense in most cases - it'll help pay for this directory, it'll undoubtedly make people aware that your professional services are available. It'll save time for the volunteers who'll be going out very soon now to get sufficient ads to pay for the directory. Why not participate. We are extremely happy that the Stratford Women's Club will do the ad work for us and that they'll get 10% of what they collect for their favorite charity work just like the garage sales where we've worked together so well - Please - call 780-9388 and tell us you'll advertise. It'll be appreciated and it should help you the advertiser too.

At the same time, should you be a new resident since September, should you not have been in town when the membership drive was in swing, in short, should our membership chairman not have received your \$3.00 annual dues, do please get in touch with Peggy Buss, 780-1005 right away or, your name and the other personal data pertinent to your family will not appear in the directory and, of course copies of the newsletter each month and the directory go to members only. There were less than ten renters and owners who did not join but there were others who were out of town so don't forget to call Peg this week.

## ABOUT THOSE VALVES

Excess water pressure can be detrimental to your appliances and plumbing. Our area has high water pressure. As a result of our work with the Fairfax County Water Authority they now provide free pressure regulating valves for you to install. A change in the Fairfax County Code now requires a by-pass system be added when this valve is initially installed. This by-pass system ensures the resident will have water if the pressure regulating valve malfunctions. The installations of the by-pass system significantly increased the cost of the installation. We've made the Water Authority aware of this added expense and they have agreed to provide a different type pressure regulating valve with a built-in by-pass system. The new valves should be available for your pickup after 1 December 1973. They'll still be free and you still must install them at your expense. This cost will be far lower than with the old type valve. If you have one of the old type valves, you've not yet installed, return it to the FCWA who will call you when the new type valves are available. Hours 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM. North of Huntington Avenue, between US #1 and Telegraph Rd, call 960-1314. The above does not apply to those who have already installed such a valve.

# MT VERNON SPORTS CENTER

Hey, how about that? Of course if you were at the annual general membership meeting you know all about it but, in case you just couldn't make it, did you know that plans are progressing for a super Sports Center next to the Martha Washington Library on Ft. Hunt and Beacon Hill Rd. Not only two ice skating rinks, nature and bike trails, small meeting places BUT, an indoor-outdoor swimming pool for year round ice skating and swimming among other possibilities. This is a very exciting undertaking and you are encouraged to get status reports and details from Dr. Bruce Collette our representatives on the Mt. Vernon Council of Civic Association's Parks and Environment Committee.

## ICE SKATING RINKS

Who knows, perhaps by the time another one or two winters come, we'll have one of the finest all year round skating rinks anywhere in our district park by the Martha Washington Library on Ft. Hunt Rd. In the interim, once again this year, our Teen Club and we, together with the Park Authority are planning to have two skating rinks in our own Stratford Landing Park. Plans now call for the week of the 15th of December for excavations. The Teen Club will once again be responsible for the rink and that'll mean salaries for a lot of youngsters through the Teen Club. It'll be patrolled, there'll be benches, we'll have a skate exchange, pick-up hockey games at night and, hoping for suitable weather, it ought to be another year where an awful lot of youngsters will have a place to go and something healthy and enjoyable to do.

## THE ANNUAL EDITORIAL

I guess once a year, after an election, an editorial is appropriate. First, all of us on the Board wish to thank Len Stevens for his work on the Board, his wise counsel and positive contributions. Second, we want to thank our membership chairman Peg Buss for getting us through an annual membership drive with a minimum of problems thanks to an awful lot of unsung work. Third, without the Block Captains we couldn't do it!!

Of course the community realizes that a lot of the members of the board have been in an elected or appointed office for an awful long time now. The first motivation of all of us is community service. It has and continues to be an exercise in moderation on practically all issues and, there are many. Undoubtedly, if we didn't like to do this sort of community work we wouldn't do it. But, there is an awful lot of personal loyalty involved too. From one board member to another - from the appointed board members to those elected and this results from close community working relationships, mutual trust and respect. We hope that we continue to do as you would want us to do and should you wish to reward us, intangibly, there's just one thing you can do - continue to come to membership meetings as you have, tell us, when you see us that you are satisfied with what we do - that's what's called psychic income and it costs the giver nothing. We are the only civic association anywhere which has more than 150 people come to each and every meeting for more than six years now and, for that, we thank you!! And, Right On!!

## STRATFORD AT THE POLLS

It probably seems like ages ago but it's been less than a month. Rather than give you facts which you have undoubtedly discerned elsewhere, here's the way our precinct (Stratford) did. We had more people voting in this location than any other precinct in Mt. Vernon district. We gave a greater plurality to the building of a new adult detention facility than any other precinct in Mt. Vernon District. We gave a plurality and went with the winners for all State-wide offices and we gave a plurality to four of the five delegates who are now member of the State Legislature. Most importantly however is the fact that so many of our eligible voters went to the polls. Just confirms once again, no matter how you slice it, we've got a great, concerned community.

# TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance, October 24, 1973		\$1,829.09
Revenue		
Dues and Sale of Cider/Donuts		235.20
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		\$2,064.29
Disbursements		
Refreshments - Meeting	\$22.77	
Alexandria Gazette	13.50	
Newsletter, October	58.79	
Miscellaneous Expenses	16.64	
Halloween Prizes	26.85	
Posters for Meeting	24.00	
Checks	13.55	
	<hr/>	<hr/>
		176.10
		<hr/>
	Cash on Hand	\$1,888.19
	Certificate of Deposit	1,013.50
	Savings Account	1,292.78
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TOTAL ASSETS	November 16, 1973	\$4,194.47
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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 Secretary in writing by the 15th 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	Lynn Adams, 780-7741 Vice President	Diane Rauch, 780-4389 Secretary
Mel Richmond, 780-3947 Treasurer	Peggy Buss, 780-1005 Treasurer	John McAleer, 780-8455 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	Jim Bambery, 780-7495 MVCCA, Transportation	John Milligan, 780-1599 MVCCA, Public Safety
Gene Seevers, 780-3919 MVCCA, Health & Welfare	John Crist, 780-3710 MVCCA, Budget & Finance	Fred Morley, 360-4736 MVCCA, Planning & Zoning
Sara Collette, 360-5188 & Sandy Steward, 780-2092 MVCCA, Education		

## OTHER ORGS' NEWS

The Stratford Women's Club will hold its annual Arts and Crafts Auction, Christmas Boutique and Bake Sale on Wednesday, November 28th, at St. Aidan's Episcopal Church, Riverside Road, at 9:30 a.m. This is a good opportunity to "Shop" for unusual gifts as all items to be auctioned will be handmade by members of the Stratford Women's Club, and everything at the bake sale will be homemade. The boutique will feature many unusual items such as padded and decorated tree ornaments with Santa Claus, Teddy Bear, Mice, Elephant and Clown designs. Hope to see you!!!

The Fort Hunt High School Marching Band: Won first place in the Second Robinson Annual Marching Spectacular held at Robinson High School in Fairfax County on Saturday, November 17. Winning the trophy for "Best of Bands" over 6 other competing high school bands, the Fort Hunt Federals also were awarded a trophy for "Superior" performance. The Fort Hunt Marching Federals are directed by Mr. Harry D. Blake. The Fort Hunt Band won the 1973 Virginia Beach Music Festival and will return as the Honor Band this June. The Symphonic Band will be one of the Clinic Bands this April for the Annual Mid-East Music Festival in Pittsburg, Pa.

Head Start: Would you like to give three and four year olds from low-income families in Fairfax County a head start in learning, in health, and in life itself? Men, Women, and students are needed as volunteers in Fairfax County Public Schools' Head Start Program. The classes in elementary schools run from about 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. If you're interested in helping in the classroom, driving children to the dentist or on field trips, call 591-4611.

## PERSONAL ITEMS

### FOR SALE:

Skis, Hart Super Pro, 210 cm, with Gete Step-in-Binding, very good condition, \$50.00; Fisher silver gloss, 175 cm, with marker rotamat binding, good condition, \$30.00., Call 780-9242.

1966 4 Dr. Chev II Station Wagon, auto trans., radio, heater, A/C, Excellent condition, snow and regular tires, runs, has been very dependable. Needs minor work. 62,400 miles, one-owner car, \$250.00; Genuine teakwood combination bar/refrigerator, imported from Denmark, doors lock, excellent condition, 110V. Asking \$150.00, call: 780-2487.

Wooden sunfish complete with rigging and dacron sails, \$135.00, call: 780-1495.

Beige nylon rug (9x12) \$25.00 - good condition, call: 780-7647.

Snow tires - several sizes, \$2.00 each; 2 dr Birch Wall Cabinet, \$5.00; Old silver pieces - Best Offer; unlined drapes, several pairs, \$2.00 pair; boys shirts, pants, wool blazer (lined) very new - entire lot, \$15.00; odds/ends fabrics, various prices; unused uncovered bolsters (sofa), \$1.50 pair.; 2 old TV sets (not working) parts only, 2 for \$5.00; Other miscellaneous articles-house-clothing, etc., call: 780-2558 after 5 or Saturday and Sunday.

Twin size mattresses and one twin size box spring, \$15.00 each or 2 for \$25.00, 780-8327.

Set of bunk bed mattresses; boys 20" spider bike; mans 26", 3 speed bike - needs repair; 25" decorative elephants from Saigon, call: 780-8432.

Bass guitar with case and AMP, both in good condition, both for \$190.00 or make offer, call 780-1719 for more information.

### FOUND:

Childs watch, call 780-3138; boys bike, 10 speed, call 780-4389; boys bike, red AMF, call, 360-3809; boy's bike, red white, blue, Sears, call 360-7189; boy's bike, blue, AMF call, 780-4993.

LESSONS: In making French mints and marzipan candies are available. These candies make nice gifts for teachers, birthdays, hostess gifts, for use with showers or special parties, call Mrs. Jean Powell at 780-1929.

NOTARY PUBLIC: A. R. POWELL, 2405 Cavendish Dr. Mon-Sat, call 780-1929.

WANTED: Country/Western/Folk Guitar Tutoring for adult beginner in my home 1 evening per wk. (Pref. teenager) call: 780-2487. Art lessons for 8 yr old girl in my home, (Prefer geenager) eves or Sat, call: 780-2487. Baton Tutoring for 8 yr old beginner (Prefer teenager) Eves or Sat., call: 780-2487. Drill Press, either bench or floor model, for home workshop, need one which accepts mortising attachment, motor optional, call: 780-1922