



# The *House Special*

VOLUME II

APRIL 1982

ISSUE 18



## VOTE

### The People's Choice

#### ELECTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

IN EARLY MAY, AN ELECTION WILL BE HELD TO ELECT, TO THREE YEAR TERMS, THREE (3) UNIT OWNERS AS MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE "SKYLINE HOUSE UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION." "MEET THE CANDIDATE" NIGHTS MAY BE HELD DURING APRIL SO THAT ALL UNIT OWNERS MAY BECOME FAMILIAR WITH THE NOMINEES' QUALIFICATIONS. WATCH THE BULLETIN BOARDS. !!!



CHAIRMEN COMMUNIQUE

## What's Up...

### PHYSICAL PLANT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE:

The Engineering Evaluation Study of Skyline House has been completed and will be shortly forwarded to C. E. Smith Companies so that identified discrepancies can be discussed and corrective action scheduled. Areas of major concern are the roof, swimming pool and garage structure.

Increased participation in this committee's work by concerned and knowledgeable Unit Owners would be appreciated. In the coming months additional emphasis will be necessary to ensure we have the best possible procedures to maintain this building complex and to monitor any repair work done in response to the engineering study list of defects.

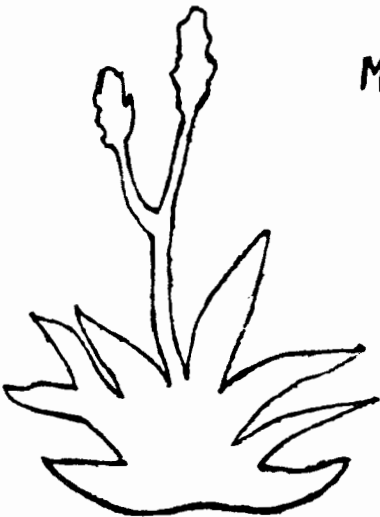
Henry Holt, 516-W  
Chairman

\* \* \* \* \*

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## SKYLINE HOUSE RECREATION COMMITTEE:

Where are all you ladies who are not yet members of this committee? At the meetings we plan fun-events for Skyline House residents, but we are a small group; we need more willing hands, especially one pair to take the minutes of our once-a-month meetings. Perhaps your talents do not run along secretarial lines . . . at least come to the next meeting (see schedule of events for April); listen to the exchange of ideas and, if it pleases you, become involved in the most up-beat of all the committees. We plan for your pleasure!

The Monday night Duplicate Bridge game held in the East Party Room is going strong under the direction of Dick Atchinson. No one has yet fled in fear because of a mis-play; on the other hand, it is doubtful the group is nurturing a National Champion. So if there are any players who have been too shy up until now, come along. It's congenial! It's fun!

But if Bridge is not your game, is it Pinochle? Connie Bredice in 1716-E hopes so. She is interested in organizing a card group and needs a minimum of two more players before she can begin dealing out those cards! Her phone is: 671-6426.

TGIF - About fifty people came to the West Party Room on March 5th to celebrate the beginning of one month nearer to Spring . . . and the traditionally last day of the working week. The cocktail snacks have been so delicious . . . and plentiful . . . that there's no need to prepare a meal afterwards. Just bring your own beverage and a contribution to the "groaning board". Lively conversation and ice are provided free of charge.

Young singles are needed to help organize activities for their age group. We need your ideas. Come get involved, or leave your suggestions at the Front Desk for Anita Wright, 106-W.

Watch for details on a possible trip to Charlestown Race Track in April or early June. Babs James, 1715-E, has information on this but details are yet to be finalized. Tallyho!

\* \* \* \* \*

### POT LUCK SUPPER

It wasn't necessary to be Irish to enjoy the Pot Luck Supper held on St. Patrick's Day in the West Party Room. One hundred and fifteen residents and their guests partook of a myriad of dishes . . . from Crab Gumbo to Tabouli . . . and it was all delicious! Some not-so-diet conscious gentlemen indulged themselves by skipping the salads and enjoying three desserts instead (but who's counting!). Two facts are now evident: Skyline House boasts excellent cooks and the Recreation Committee deserves all kinds of credit for organizing these occasions, providing opportunities for us to meet for the happiest of reasons . . . just to have fun!



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N O T I C E: Advertisements appearing in this Newsletter do not constitute endorsement nor reflect approval thereof by Skyline House Condominium Association or its Board of Directors.

Community Relations Committee

COMMUNITY NOTES

The Fairfax County Public School System has just published the school schedule through the first semester of 1982-1983. Families that make long-range plans may want save this. Note also that reports on academic performance of students are rendered at the end of each grading period.

April 2	Third Grading Period Ends
April 5 - 9	Spring Vacation
May 31	Memorial Day Holiday
June 18	Last Day of School . . . this date is subject to change if school days are lost due to inclement weather.
August 30	First Day of School
September 6	Labor Day Holiday
October 11	Columbus Day Holiday
November 4	First Grading Period Ends
November 5 & 8	Student Holidays, Teacher Workdays
November 25,26	Thanksgiving Holiday
December 23 - 31	Winter Holiday for Students
January 21	Second Grading Period Ends

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CELEBRATE GEORGE'S 250th - While the whole Nation is celebrating this anniversary of George Washington's birth during 1982, the celebration will be especially significant in Fairfax County, where he lived all his adult life. The biggest County celebration will take place on May 8th along the George Washington Memorial Parkway, which follows the Potomac from Cabin John Bridge to Mount Vernon Plantation. All elementary schools have copies of a pamphlet titled "Ideas For The Family", developed by FCPS' Department of Instructional Services. Also, watch for notices of subsequent events in the local newspapers.

Should one wish to really enter into the spirit of the celebration a bumper sticker is available from the Northern Virginia Association of Historians, Tallwood History Center, 4210 Roberts Road, Fairfax, Virginia 22032, for one dollar. It reads: "George Washington was a Northern Virginian". Send orders, with payment, to the above address or call 323-2571 for more information.



Voting Information - You are eligible to register to vote if you are a citizen of the United States; at least 18 years old, and a resident of Fairfax County. It should be noted that one may register year-round except during the 30 days prior to a general or primary election. Registration is permanent unless you move or fail to vote at least once in four consecutive years.

If you have not already registered, it is possible to do so every Wednesday from 7 - 9 PM at all County Libraries except Fair Oaks, Burke Center and Carter Glass.

#### ELECTION CALENDAR

June 8	Primary Election
May 8	Last Day to Register
May 4	Towns and City Election
April 3	Last Day to Register

\* \* \* \* \*

Exercise Rooms - For maximum utilization of the Exercise, Steam and Sauna Rooms and benefit to the greatest number of Skyline House residents, the Community Relations Committee is exploring the idea of setting aside time periods for couples wishing to use these facilities.

At present they are available to men only on the even-numbered days of the month; to women, on the odd-numbered. Before any change is made in this system, it was felt important to gauge interest in such an innovation.

Sign the sheet at the desk in the Main Lobby if you are in favor of having certain hours for co-ed use of the Exercise Rooms.

\* \* \* \* \*

Leaf Collection Tax - The Leaf Collection Tax petition, with 283 signatures, was delivered to the office of Mason District Supervisor, Tom Davis, on Saturday, March 13th. The Fairfax Board of Supervisors, at its regular weekly meeting on March 29th, will probably set up a public hearing in the near future, after which a decision will be made relative to redrawing the boundaries of the leaf collection district . . . without Skyline City. Mr. Davis feels optimistic about the chances for such a redistricting of the area.

\* \* \* \* \*

Blood Donors - We are still hopeful of getting enough signatures for setting up a blood collection center at the Skyline Plaza Party Room, in the not-too-distant future. No matter when or where you may need blood, the Red Cross will replace the amount requested. (However, arrangements must be made before the blood is administered and the hospital bills you for it.) This can mean a saving of \$25.00 a pint, the present charge. Anyone in this area may request blood from the Red Cross, even though that person may be either too young or too old to give blood; others may have a physical condition, past or present, which precludes ever being able to do so. No one is excepted,

Even though you may never need blood yourself, consider what a gift your blood can be, an investment in the continuing good health of our community. If you have not signed list at the Main Lobby Desk, please do so as soon as possible.

ON ATTENDING A TOWN MEETING

KEN GRANT, OBSERVES

I participated in the recently held Skyline House Town Meeting. The comments and questions from the unit owners present reflected, I felt, their wide range of interest and concerns.

Members of the Board and Management were introduced by the Board Chairman. The Chairman commented on the effective working of committees and highlighted the more important aspects of their work. The Board has met in 8 regular and 8 executive sessions.

a. Mr. G. Frank and legal counsel, Mr. W. Marr, assisted by the Physical Plant Operations Committee, represent the Board in meetings with the developer concerning the receipt of the common elements.

b. The law firm of Hyatt & Rhoades has been retained as general counsel.

c. Charles Smith Associates received a one year contract as management agent.

A report from the Vice Chairman on other substantive issues before the Board included:

- a. Changes in Metrobus schedule to stop in front of Skyline House.
- b. One way traffic pattern established in the garage.
- c. An annual washing of unit window exteriors, not accessible from balconies established.
- d. Fees, to defray wear and tear costs, established for move-in and out.
- e. Staffing on the front desk increased for peak load periods.
- f. Solid steel panel roll up doors ordered for the garage.
- g. Lighting around the building increased.
- h. Constant review and improvement of the guard situation.
- i. Efforts to improve communications on Board activities.

Questions from the floor resulted in the following information:

- a. The construction next floor will be a two story brick duralite structure. for offices and retail condominiums.
- b. The steam room should be available shortly.
- c. Pellets to repel pigeons are available from Management.
- d. A pedestrian overpass, at an estimated cost of over \$4M is not feasible.
- e. Traffic light requires political pressure for action. The Department of Highways indicates accident rate insufficient to justify.
- f. Residents expecting several guests must leave a list of names at the desk.

It was a good meeting with lively participation from the floor. It was disappointing, however, that there was not a larger percentage of representation of unit owners present. The Committees and Board should have the interest and support of "OUR COMMUNITY".

\* \* \* \* \*

1408-W

# ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE:

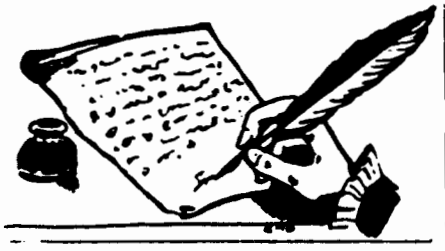
This Committee met Monday, March 1, 1982. The following subjects were discussed:

1. There was a request for a hand-rail to be installed on one side of the walk leading from the lobby to the street. This would be particularly important in snowy and icy weather.
2. The creation of a hobby room in the empty half of the storage room #4 in the East Building was discussed. There is plenty of room. If any residents have any ideas or suggestions relating to hobby activities, we would appreciate hearing from you. A sketch will be submitted to the Board of Directors.

Our next meeting will be MONDAY, APRIL 4, at 8 P.M. in the EAST CARD ROOM.

Phil & Pearl Heyman 605-E

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## LETTERS

The Editors of "The House Special" welcome letters from residents of Skyline House. Let the Letter Editor, Elizabeth Grant, 1408-W, know if you have a question; want to express an opinion, or simply have something of interest you would care to share.

\* \* \* \* \*

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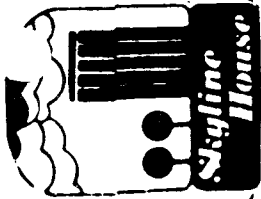
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SKYLINE HOUSE UNIT  
OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR

APRIL

1982

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY																																																																																				
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\*\*\* THIS MONTH'S EVENTS \*\*\*

Friday Night Cocktail Party - Friday, April 2, 1982, 6:30 PM East Party Room. Everyone's invited: singles, couples, and guests of both. No charge. No reservations required. Bring your own drinks, mixes and, if you wish, snacks to share. Casual dress. Come join us!

Wine and Cheese Party - Friday, April 23, East Party Room. Reservations and advance payment required. Watch for fliers.

Slimnastics - 8 week Wednesday night classes begin April 7, 7 PM West Party Room. Advance payment required. Fliers at desk.

Bridge - No partner needed, separate duplicate and rubber bridge games. Every Monday, 7:30 PM, East Card Room. For more information, contact Dick Atchison, 1101E.

Committee Meetings - All meetings held at 8:00 PM.

Architectural Planning & Control - Monday, April 5, West Card Room

Community Relations - Tuesday, April 13, East Card Room

Covenants - to be announced

Financial Management & Administration - Tuesday, April 6, West Card Room

Physical Plant Operations - Thursday, April 8, West Card Room

Recreation - Thursday, April 1, West Card Room

Security & Fire Safety - Tuesday, April 20, West Card Room

Board of Directors' Meeting - Tuesday , 7:30 PM West Card Room.  
April 27

## NOTES FROM THE BOARD



The March Board meeting opened with the announcement that Barbara Seymon had resigned as Board member. Many of us will miss her and regret her departure. The Board expressed its appreciation for her contributions these past months.

The Board decided to go ahead with ordering appropriate trees for growing a natural barrier between our Build America neighbor and Skyline House. Build America will pay about half of the project.

In line with the recommendation of the Security Committee, new security monitoring cameras will be installed at the loading dock areas of the building. The new cameras will permit the receptionist at the front desk to monitor the rolling doors and the persons wanting to use the entrance door into the building.

Unfortunately we are forced to postpone the window washing project. To wash the windows, the screens have to be removed which risks breaking the fragile plastic clips that hold the screens in place. These clips, it turned out, are no longer being manufactured and cannot be replaced. The Board asked the management to investigate the possibility of putting new clips or fasteners on the screens and report its findings at the next Board session. As soon as we have this problem solved, we will go ahead with having the windows washed and residents will be informed of the arrangements we are making for taking down the screens and putting the screens back up again. Please have patience; we do not want to see unhappy residents at Skyline House.

The Board accepted the recommendation of the Community Relations Committee to request the Bus Transportation authorities to change the bus stops on George Mason Drive to a point near the steps leading to the lobby of Skyline House and to a point directly across the street. This will provide safer and better boarding and returning points.

The management was asked to look into the feasibility and costs of establishing a hobby room. Mrs. Ruth Ballard, who attended the Board meeting, graciously offered her services and experience for setting up a hobby room.

The management happily reported that our new garage doors have finally arrived.

The Board endorsed a recommendation of the Community Relations Committee to reject a request of a commercial company to use the party room for explaining its products to Skyline House residents and owners.

Wynfred Joshua  
Vice President

## NOTES FROM THE BOARD

### SECRETARY, BOARD OF DIRECTORS RESIGNS

On March 5, Barbara Seymon resigned, effective immediately, as Secretary and member of the Board of Directors. In her letter of resignation to the President of the Board Ms. Seymon wrote, in part, "when I decided to run for a position on the Board of Directors, last year, I fully understood that it would be a time consuming and thankless task. However, I was not aware that my efforts to act as a productive member of the Board would be subverted from both external as well as internal sources."

### BOARD, MAKES INTERIM APPOINTMENT

To act as Secretary, Board of Directors for the interim until the coming election, the Board of Directors appointed Ms. Barbara Bear. Barbara is presently an active member of the Architectural Committee. She lives at 1410-E. Before moving to Skyline House she lived for five years at Skyline Plaza where she was active in Plaza community activities, but not in an elected position.

In making this interim appointment the Board made clear that the remaining year of Ms. Seymon's unexpired term on the Board would be filled at the next regular election.

### DEFINITE ANSWER RECEIVED ON PETITION TO REPLACE GALLERY CARPET: NO.

On February 27 Merrill J. Collett, President, Board of Directors, wrote Robert H. Smith, President, Eleventh Skyline Corporation regarding the Gallery Carpet. In part, he pointed out, "This is our second letter . . . it became imperative that we write you once again when the Board received a petition of the owners of 258 units protesting the appearance of this carpet.

Unfortunately, this level of dissatisfaction has been further aggravated by the fact that the West Gallery draperies, which were burned by the gallery radiant heaters, have never been replaced. This, in turn, has provoked further questions about the absence of draperies in the East Gallery . . . ."

On March 11, Mr. Joseph A. Klea, Jr., Vice President of the Eleventh Skyline Corporation replied for Mr. Smith. In part the letter stated:

"The position of the developer, Eleventh Skyline Corp. with respect to the gallery carpet at Skyline House has been addressed several times during the past three years. Nonetheless, after the receipt of your most recent letter the carpet was once again inspected, both by Mr. Smith and this writer. Our position on the subject follows.

The carpet that is installed in the galleries was manufactured by the Charleston Mills, which is a very reputable manufacturer. It is made of 100% Veftron nylon which is considered to be top yarn. It was selected to provide a luxurious feel and in order to achieve this we elected to pay one third more than we had decided to pay on the typical hallway carpet. To achieve the feel that we desired we selected a plush carpet.

One of the traits of all plush carpeting is a look that is referred to, in the industry, as "water marking" - - perhaps this is a deserved trait in light of the protest of 258 Unit Owners. The appearance of the carpet upon the installation was one of "water marking." We were given every assurance that this was a normal and expected trait of the carpeting. Evidently this is still not accepted by the Unit Owners.

As a result of the concern of the Unit Owners over the appearance of the carpeting an inspection was conducted in 1979 by the manufacturer's representative. The inspection concluded that the carpeting was not stained, did not show excess wear and that the trait of "water marking" was consistent with plush carpeting.

It is our position that the carpeting provided was consistent with what was expected when it was ordered. We do not intend to replace the carpeting and found no cause, during the guarantee period of the carpeting to institute any action against either the manufacturer or the installer. Incidentally, I would like to add that we have used this style of carpeting in our previous residential buildings and continue to do so in our current projects. All plush carpeting possesses this trait. I regret that the issue has remained unresolved in the minds of so many of the Unit Owners. Perhaps if the above could be explained to them, they may accept that the gallery carpeting is not damaged.

As to the other issue stated in your letter, with respect to the gallery draperies which were burned by the radiant heating, please be advised that the replacement draperies for this area have been ordered and should be installed within two months.

With respect to the absence of draperies in the East Gallery you should be advised that none were installed because they were never included in our original design for the East Gallery . . . . I think there is substantial evidence of good faith by the developer in their attempt to correct, under warranty, these items which you believe require action."

## From Management



### FILTERS

Furnace filters should be changed about once a month for more efficient heating and cooling. They are available in the Management Office for \$1.00 each. There are two sizes: 20X20X1 and 16X20X1. Bathroom exhaust fan filters are also available in the Office for \$2.25 each.

### BALCONIES

Spring is upon us and therefore time for residents to begin to use their balconies again. Just a few reminders about use of your balcony. Please do not allow anything to be dropped or thrown from your balcony, especially cigarettes. They cause burns on carpets of other balconies and an unsightly mess on the ground below. We would also like to remind you that the use of charcoal grills on balconies is against the Fairfax County law as well as the Condominium House Rules and Regulations. Please do not use any grill that may cause a flame due to danger of fire and smoke disturbance to neighbors.

While talking about use of the balcony, we would like to caution you about feeding the pigeons or any other birds. We do not want to encourage the pigeons to roost on our building.

**DR. JEROME W. SPECHLER**

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FOR THE PRACTICE OF FAMILY DENTISTRY

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OFFICE HOURS

TELEPHONE

BY APPOINTMENT

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## KEEPING THE KITCHEN DRAIN OPEN

The key to keeping your drain running well in the kitchen is a little extra care in the use of your garbage disposal. Turn on the COLD water first, then the disposal, and then feed the waste in slowly. When the grinding is finished, turn the disposal off but let the water run a bit longer to flush the ground up waste down the entire drain. Incidentally, this practice is also important to prevent back-up and overflow of your washing machine drain since they share a common drain.

We would also request that no grease be poured down the kitchen sink. Please pour into a can or jar, store in refrigerator until hardened, then discard in the trash chute. Grease will become hardened in the pipes, so that no water or debris will be allowed to pass thru them to the main sewer line. When this happens, residents on the lower floors experience sink back-ups.

To keep the disposal free from odors, grind up the peelings from citrus fruits such as grapefruit, oranges or lemons.



If you are in need of help during an emergency such as a fire and are unable to evacuate yourself, please advise the Management Office of your disability, however minor, so that help will arrive to aid you. We have stickers available for your door if you so desire. These stickers alert the firemen that a person in your unit needs help. If you do not wish the sticker, you are not obligated to have one even though you are on the emergency list. We hope that all persons that have any disabilities no matter how slight will advise the Office so that your name can be placed on our emergency list. This list is posted in the Fire Control Room and the Management Office.