

The

House Special

VOLUME XIV

JUNE 1994

NO. 6

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

David Tilson, President

o The redecoration of the residential corridors in both buildings was the topic of a special Board meeting held in the East Party Room on May 17. About 100 unit owners attended the meeting which focused on the procedures to be followed in arriving at a decision — on the redecorating design.

o The meeting was called because of complaints that most unit owners had not had sufficient opportunity to consider and express their views on the proposed design that the *ad hoc* decorating committee had recommended and that the Board had approved at its April meeting.

o The Board concluded that there was merit in the complaint about the inadequacy of the opportunity afforded unit owners to review and comment on the proposed design. It therefore rescinded its decision to implement the recommendations of the *ad hoc* decorating committee and made the following decisions on the steps to be followed in the next few months:

1. The old *ad hoc* decorating committee of six persons was dissolved. A new *ad hoc* committee of nine members was authorized. Roy Cahoon, 1004W, who chaired the old committee, — was asked to chair the new committee and agreed to do so. The other members of the committee will be selected jointly by the President and Vice

President of the Board and Roy Cahoon.

The Board noted that we owe a vote of thanks to the members of the old *ad hoc* Decorating Committee. They worked very hard to come up with a recommendation that I know many people think is excellent. (There also are unit owners who do not like the recommended design.)

In addition to Roy Cahoon, the Chair, the members were: Sophie Anderson, Tony DiSalvo, Helen MacAskill, Lisa Ruiz, and Carroll Thompson.

Although it is up to the new decorating committee, it is possible that the recommendations of the old decorating committee may be included among the choices to be considered by the new decorating committee.

2. The committee will select two interior designers and retain them as consultants.

Each of the two designers will be asked to submit at least three designs, each with quite different styles and color combinations, that each designer believes would be appropriate for the residential corridors in Skyline House.

The committee will then select three contrasting designs from the six or more submitted and have presentation boards made up. The presentation boards will consist of a good sized sample of the carpeting proposed, (Continued To Page 2)



The *House Special*

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: *The House Special* welcomes brief comments from its readers. Please limit your letters to 250 words and include your name and Unit Number. The Association Board reserves the right to refuse incorrect or improper statements.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I wanted to let you know about two topics:

(1) Giant/Safeway receipt program - Andrew would like me to pass along the thanks of his school for the tremendous response to his request for receipts. Ellen Glasgow Middle School was able to order five printers, four disk drives and a variety of software through the Giant/Safeway receipts collected for the school. I'm guessing that Andrew took in around \$70,000 worth of receipts from the two apt. buildings (Skyline House and Bancroft Hills Condominium - his former home). This guess is based on my sitting down one night and counting the receipts (I counted around \$10,000) and I know Andrew took about 7 of these big envelopes to school. We are very, very appreciative of the help given to Andrew's school - and the drive certainly benefitted many children (and staff!).

(2) General thanks - Could you please pass along my thanks to all the staff of Skyline (House) for the good work they do. My husband, son and I have lived here for 5 years and it is a pleasure to come home to such an attractive and well-run building. The cable installation, for instance, was a wonderful Xmas present for our family--we did not have cable and the Washington Cable agreement has enabled us to see some wonderful programs at very little cost. This is just one example of many that make up the whole for a pleasant and enjoyable lifestyle. My thanks, then, to each and every person on the staff of Skyline House as well as to all connected with the committees.

Sincerely,

Judith York, Apt. 514W

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(Continued from Page 1) as well as the wall coverings and paint. An example of how each of the proposed decors would look would be set up in one of the residential corridors, probably on the 11th floor of the West Building.

About 2-3 weeks would be allowed for residents to inspect the proposals. Then a letter would be sent to all unit owners, with a ballot enclosed, requesting an expression of preference among the designs.

Before the ballots are due, a Town Meeting will be held at which the designers will be invited to make presentations and to answer questions from the unit owners. Then unit owners (Continued)

(Continued) can fill out and submit their ballots in a few days. When the results are in, the Committee will meet and make a recommendation to the Board as to which of the designs to implement.

3. A tight schedule was established: the committee was asked to have the display boards up by Labor Day, or sooner, if possible.

Once a design is selected, Management will make a cost estimate for the Board, which will then make a formal decision to authorize purchase of carpeting, wall coverings, etc. This should happen before November 1.

Unit owners interested in serving on the new decorating committee were invited to submit their names. This was done both at the May 17 meeting, and by an announcement on the Bulletin Boards. By Monday, May 23, 21 people volunteered to serve on the Committee. Effective Wednesday, May 25, the new *ad hoc* committee was appointed. Its members are:

Roy Cahoon, 1014W, Chair
Helen Brown, 913E
Helen Drivas, 906E
Jeanette Howell, 1704W
Blaine Jones, 1715E
Sonwha Kim, 1615W
Alberto Maldonado, 1707W
Geraldine Naveau, 413W
Dick Noonan, 203E

We owe them a vote of thanks for tackling on this tough and important job and wish them Godspeed!

o Whatever the outcome of this process, I am confident that we will have a good design that will enhance the attractiveness of the buildings and the value of our investments. I am equally confident that whatever design is chosen it will be loved by some, hated by some, and viewed without enthusiasm by others. But I think most will agree that we will have used a decisionmaking procedure that is reasonable.

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- * 2BR, 2Baths. Carpet & water heater almost new. Many upgrades.

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FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Bill Miller, Chair

o Due to the absence of several members, our scheduled May 19th meeting was changed to May 27, 1994 at which time enough members would be present to constitute a quorum.

o The committee members were very happy to have our member with the longest active committee participation, Gladys Frank, back in the fold and to note the excellent progress she is making.

o Several current subjects on the agenda for our May 27th meeting were:

Review of the committee membership requirements. This review was based on the change in the scheduled meeting date from every month to every other month. Under the present membership requirements, an owner desiring to become a committee member would be required to wait at least five months before becoming a voting member of the committee. A change in the requirements seemed to be desirable.

The funds available for the redecorating of the residential corridors was to be discussed. The committee's financial oversight responsibilities deal with the financial aspects of the decorating and does not include design, colors, etc. Our focus will be on the amount of reserve funds available for the decorating vs. the amount already spent towards decorating the residential corridors and estimated future costs.

The committee's review of move-in fees was to be completed at the meeting. A memorandum will be submitted to the Board containing our recommendations.

Advanced planning for the 1995 budget was also an agenda item. Although it is only the end of May, tentative scheduled review dates will be discussed as will budget review procedures.

Cash management, which was discussed at

the April 27, 1994 Board meeting was also an agenda item. There was a request from the Board for review and recommendations from the Financial Management Committee. The committee's recommendations will be submitted to the Board.

o It was necessary to submit the Financial Management Committee *House Special* article prior to our meeting on May 27th. Final actions will be included in the July *House Special*.

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THE GOOD NEIGHBOR GROUP



**Co-Chairs: Irene Wolgamot 998-1715
Geraldine Naveau 931-4643**

o The volunteer Good Neighbors for June are:

SKYLINE HOUSE GOOD NEIGHBORS

June 1994

Lou Burkot 845-7724
Midge Easter 931-6878

o The Good Neighbor volunteers enjoyed the gala dinner party and the recognition of their services by the Board on Volunteer Recognition Night.

o The May Good Neighbors manned a table in the West Mail Lobby on May 10, from 5 to 7 o'clock, to publicize the program.

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How does love come?
It comes unsought--unsent.
How does love go?
It was not love that went.

PHYSICAL PLANT & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

Ed Ing, Chair

o At its regular meeting on May 5, 1994, the Physical Plant and Operations Committee reviewed the status of on-going projects, including the following items:

1. New Committee Chair.

The PPOC has designated Gordon Frank as committee chair.

2. Protective Mesh for Balconies.

The board received a request from a resident to install meshing along the balcony railing perimeter to prevent the resident's children from squeezing between the railing openings. This request was forwarded to the PPOC. The PPOC discussed at length the primary concern for children's safety, the suitability of different screening, the need for uniform rules, and the committee's lack of knowledge of effective protective screening. These issues will require additional inquiries and study. To be responsive to the resident and the board, however, the committee recommended that the board allow the resident to install the balcony screening which he desires on the condition that the resident, at his own cost, must later comply with rules and specifications for such screening which the committee will later submit to the board. The resident can thus install the mesh to protect his children immediately, provided he agrees to conform to standards which the board may adopt in the future.

3. Condition of the Plexiglass Roof and Carpet of the Pedestrian Bridge.

During the balcony and spandrel work on the East Building, CRL workers had damaged six of the eight roofing panels on the pedestrian bridge between the East Building lobby and the garage. The contractor had left the bridge uncovered and had allowed patching compound to

drip on six roofing panels. The contractor initially rejected any liability for the damage. The General Manager, in response, withheld the last \$5,000 of payment until this matter was resolved. To resolve this dispute, the contractor agreed to let the condominium keep \$3,770, as compensation, out of the \$5,000 withheld, and the General Manager would send the remainder to the contractor.

The General Manager had asked the committee for input as to the repair of the bridge. The PPOC discussed the advisability of replacing six of the eight panels, or all eight panels so that all panels would match, or waiting until more serious repair is needed for the bridge. The bridge has always had rain leaks because of poor roof seam joints. These joints have been caulked and re-caulked a number of times without success. Consequently, although the bridge carpet has been replaced, the replacement carpet is as discolored and stained as the old one.

To replace the roof panels would not prevent the rain leaks. Water would continue to enter through the roof seams and through the side windows. In addition, the patching compound stains on the six roof panels are cosmetic and do not need to be repaired or replaced at present. The committee, therefore recommended that replacement of the roof panels be postponed, until more extensive repairs are needed; at that time, the bridge roofing can be re-designed to be impervious to rain. As an interim measure, the committee recommended that the board replace the damp, musty, stained carpet with skid-proof tile; tiling will hold up better to rain water leaks than carpeting.



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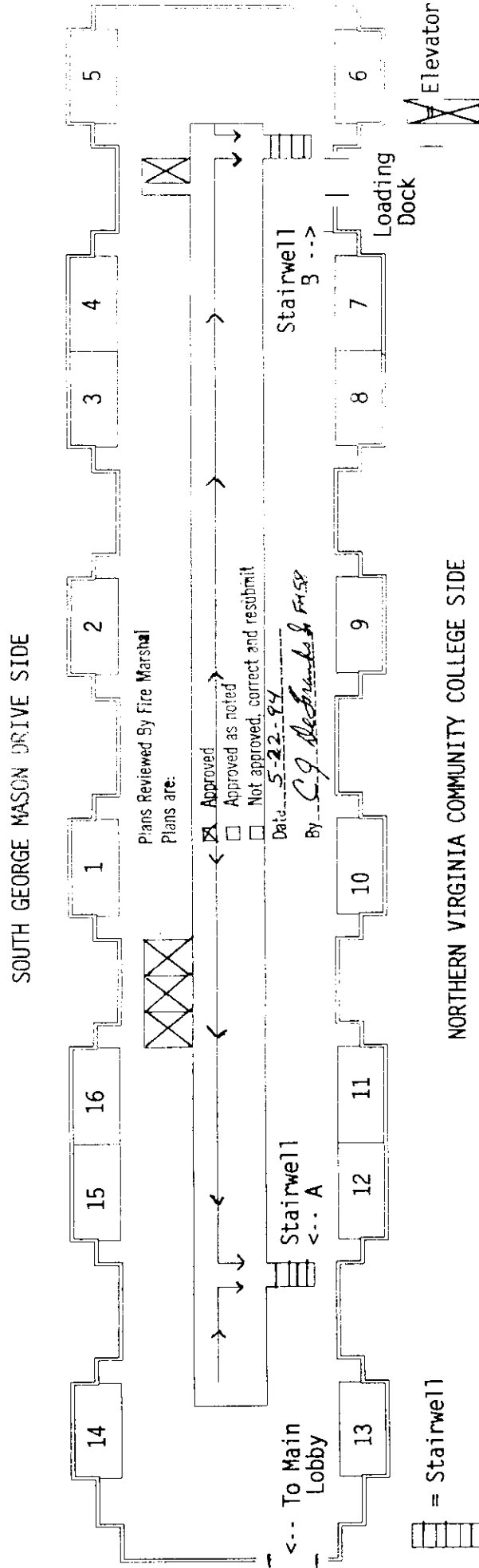
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- The stairwells will pressurize and not allow smoke to enter.
- The elevator(s) are equipped with emergency phones.

- The fire alarm will initially sound on the floor where the alarm is initiated, the floors immediately above and below, the stairways, and the elevators. If the Fire Department determines that a more extensive emergency exists, the rest of the building will be notified to evacuate by fire alarm or loudspeaker system.

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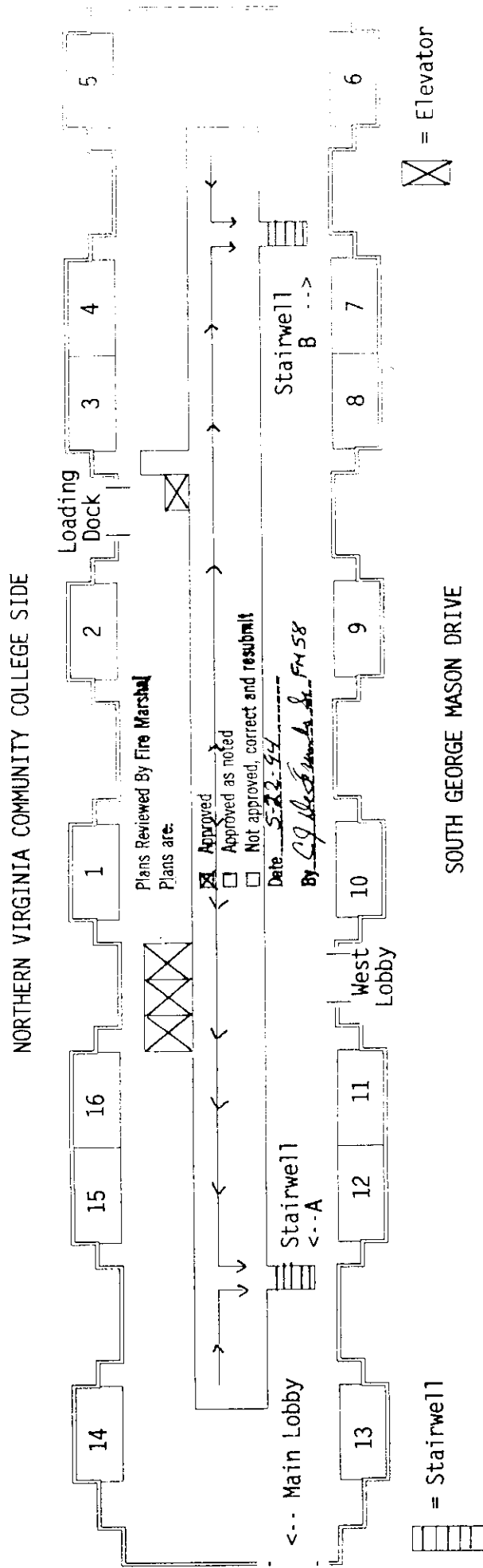
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MANAGEMENT REPORT

Don Fenton, General Manager

o **Thank You**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the residents and staff of Skyline House for their assistance and patience during the recent re-paving contract. **NO ONE HAD TO BE TOWED, WHEW!!!** The cooperation was fantastic. Even the weatherman cooperated. And a special thanks to the Smith Company and Skyline Plaza for making extra parking spaces available for our residents -- they didn't have to do that. We'll return the favor some time. Maybe things are changing. Thanks again.

o **Fire Safety**

You may have noticed new signs in the resident stairwells. They are the result of new fire code requirements in effect in Fairfax County. The signs show what floor, what stairwell and on what floor the outside exit is located. If you find the following sign on the wall adjacent to the stairwell door, **A 16 "Exit on Floor G"** it means - you are in stairwell A on the 16th floor and the outside exit from that stairwell is on Floor level G. See pages 6 and 7 for the evacuation plan.

Shortly, all residents will be receiving packets with plans showing the different ways of exiting the building including the fastest way from his unit. Essential evacuation information is provided. Throughout the complex, floor plan drawings, called footprints, will be affixed to the walls for Fire Department and occupant use.

Management will be announcing the date of the annual fire drill, now required in Fairfax County along with various demonstrations and information programs. In conjunction with the fire drill we will actually evacuate occupants including those on the handicap list, within reason. Maybe you can be the lucky person who gets to come down the aerial ladder. Applications for this privilege will be accepted at the office.

o **Fire Damage**

Recently we discovered damage to our new West Sun Deck membrane caused by some irresponsible party extinguishing his cigarette by stubbing it out into our roof. It could have resulted in a leak into someone's unit but was found in time to stop further damage. Luckily, our contractor repaired the damage at no charge but it was a close call.

The Association's rules prohibit smoking except when inside your unit, in the party room during private functions (the host is 100% financially responsible for any damage), and the billiard rooms. *We recently had a party where one of our new large wooden tables was found marked by a two inch long burn mark. It doesn't take much to do damage.* **NO SMOKING AT ANY TIME IS ALLOWED ANYWHERE ELSE.** As you know we have problems with people throwing lighted smoking materials from their balconies. If you see someone doing this it is important that you report the infraction. Remember to count down from the top balcony. The top is always the 17th floor, and management will be pleased to identify the tier, if asked. Maybe if we start looking out for each other we can put a halt to the debris and accompanying damage caused by a few non-caring members.

o **Incoming Faxes (Repeat from May 1994)**

As a test program, Skyline House will, through July, not charge for incoming faxes. When a fax is received it will be time & date stamped, a call made to the unit via intercom and then placed in the unit mail slot at the front desk. **NO FURTHER CALLS WILL BE MADE.** Please check for other than post office mail and packages daily.

o **1994 Pool Passes**

Pool passes are now available for residents of units in good standing for the 1994 season. They can be obtained from the Management Office from 2 pm to 6 pm on Monday - Friday and from 9 am to 12 noon on Saturday.

The pool opens on Saturday, May 28, 1994 at 11 am.

PLEASE REMEMBER, NO BATHING SUITS OR OTHER POOL APPAREL MAY BE WORN WHILE IN THE LOBBY OR GALLERIES. RESIDENTS ARE TO USE THE G-LEVEL TO GO TO AND FROM THE POOL.

○ **Handicap list.** Any residents having problems that might hinder their evacuation during an emergency, such as fire, should be listed on the HANDICAPPED EVACUATION LIST. If you wish to be listed please contact the Management Office.

Vehicle Registration

All vehicles that are owned or operated by Skyline House residents and regularly parked here are required to display a current Skyline House decal. Also, if you dispose of a vehicle, please let us know so that we may mark the record from our current database. Just because you get a new car doesn't mean we automatically know to delete one of the others. We recommend cutting off the name "Skyline House" from the decal before application. These decals are **NOT** transferable from one vehicle to another. If you change vehicles get a new decal. If you just change license number you do not need a new decal but you do need to let us know.

○ Debit cards, etc.

Your management is working to arrange for alternative methods of paying condominium fees and in-unit charges. Direct payment, electronic payment, credit card, etc. Please drop us a line if you would like to have an alternative method of payment available.

○ Alternative ID

Within the month Skyline House will have available alternative ID's for residents. No longer will it be necessary for residents/owners to leave their driver's license or deposit to check out keys, billiard equipment, use the exercise room, etc.,

anything except the pool. These IDs will have your name, color photo, coded location and expiration data. Non-unit owners' cards will be good until the end of their lease and unit owners will be non-expiring but revalidated annually.

○ **Fourteenth Board of Directors**
the regular meeting schedule is as follows:

June 14, 1994	Tues.	ECR
July 28, 1994	Thurs.	WCR
September 28, 1994	Wed.	ECR
November 17, 1994	Thurs.	WCR
January 25, 1995	Wed.	ECR
March 22, 1995	Wed.	WCR

All meetings start at 7:30 pm and are held in the respective building's card room.

The Annual Meeting will on Tuesday, March 28, 1995 at 7:15 pm. in the Main Lobby.

○ Towing Signs

In order to be in compliance with the new Fairfax County towing ordinance, Skyline House has erected the necessary signage. This signage is not only required for the Association to legally tow vehicles but is also required for you, the unit resident, to tow from your assigned spaces both inside and out. They will be replaced in the near future by more visually pleasing signage. But for now, we are legal.

○ Balcony Painting

Please check your unit mail box at the front desk for an orange colored notice. If you find one it means that your balcony has not yet been painted. Currently we are painting 2 balconies per day, on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays (Wednesday is a rain day). Normally we start around 8 am and are finished at about 3 pm. It makes no difference which building, East or

West, you live in. As of today we are booking dates from July onward. You do not have to be home for us to paint but if you are not you must leave an admit slip with your front door key. We also need balconies that can be substituted for scheduled units cancelling because of illness, etc. Just drop in to the management office and make that appointment.

o **Sale of parking spaces** requires prior Board approval to be considered a valid sale.

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NEWS FROM MASON DISTRICT

Farmers Market

Following the suggestions of Supervisor Trapnell, the Fairfax County Park Authority has made arrangements with the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service to sponsor a Farmers Market at Mason District Park this summer. They will be held every Thursday throughout the summer growing season starting on June 16th. The operating hours will be from 9 AM to 1 PM and the market will offer vegetables, fruits, baked goods, and other farm products grown or made by people from the local area. Allowing the first week to iron out the problem areas, a grand opening will be scheduled for Thursday, June 23. A formal announcement will be distributed later.

The markets have been very successful in other parts of the county. They should serve the residents of Mason District well in not only providing an excellent selection of products but also in promoting a sense of community for those who participate.

Questions concerning the products and vendors available should be directed to Nancy Corrigan, the County Extension Agent at 324-5370. Weekly information concerning operating hours can be obtained by calling the Park Manager, Richard Maple, at 941-1730.

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Honors

In honor of the 20th anniversary of the Fairfax County Human Rights Ordinance, the county Human Rights Commission has honored four individuals or entities this year. These annual awards recognize outstanding accomplishments in the area of human rights, accomplishments that may represent a single significant activity or a long-term commitment displayed through various activities. The winners are selected from nominees representing three categories: individuals, non-profit organizations, and businesses. Three of the four recipients this year are from within Mason District, and will be honored at this month's general membership meeting. They are: Ray Ordenez, a police officer recognized for service to the Hispanic community; the Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, recognized for its efforts in caring for the homeless, the incarcerated, and the needy; and the Western Supermarket, recognized for its commitment to serving the needs of the disabled.

Other News

Rep. Leslie Byrne was among 16 House members honored recently by the Washington-based Fund To End The Deficit for returning a portion of her salary equal to the 3.2% pay increase Congress voted itself to begin last year.

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RECREATION COMMITTEE

Tony Di Salvo & Dave Harvey, Co-Chairs

o The committee met on May 11 at 7:30 pm in the East Card Room with all regular members present. Mike Moore, Board Liaison was also present. One member was excused.

o A discussion ensued as to what we could do to get more people to participate in Recreation Committee activities. All committees seem to have this problem. The subject of "Bingo" came up. Do we have a sufficient number of residents willing to participate? If you are interested, please leave a message at the front desk for Tony DiSalvo, 502E.

o On Saturday, July 9, at 7:00 pm, at Pool side, the committee will attempt to have its monthly TGIF with a luau theme. We have done this a number of times in the party room with great success. Dress as if you were attending a luau and bring a plate of *hors d'oeuvres*, preferably with a luau theme (but it is not a requirement) and your own liquid refreshment. The committee will provide the cups, etc.

o A reminder for those who have not attended the monthly TGIF, make the next one your first and meet your neighbors. YOU are more than welcome and to make it easier for you, you are requested NOT to bring a plate of *hors d'oeuvres*. Just bring yourselves and your own liquid refreshment.

o The above message has appeared in this space month after month and finally we had a Skyline resident attend who had not previously attended. She was most welcome and we hope she will return.

o The Atlantic City trip on May 19 was a great success. We had 39 passengers with a number from Skyline Square. We certainly welcomed them. Thank you, Mimi, for hosting this event.

o The International Night dinner was a huge

success also. We had 31 residents and their guests. The dinner was catered by Holly Dyar and I would like to thank Mimi Frank and Carroll Thompson who assisted in the serving of the dinner. I would like thank also those who assisted in the cleanup following the dinner, especially my wife Nancy who along with Carroll Thompson, set up the party room. Thanks to all the residents who participated, without whom there would not have been a dinner.

o The next TGIF will be Friday, June 3, in the West Party Room, at 6:30 pm.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES

TGIF	Fri Jun 3	WPR 6:30 pm
Rec Com	Wed Jul 6	ECR 7:30 pm
Luau/TGIF	Sat Jul 9	Pool side

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**SECURITY, FIRE & SAFETY
COMMITTEE**

Community Happenings
by Tony DiSalvo

Ginger Rogers, Temporary Chair

o Eight guests attended the May 12 committee meeting.

o A review of the incidents which occurred at Skyline House during March and April indicates a serious problem relating to fire safety within the units, i.e., incidents involving unattended cooking resulting in Fire Department responses. The committee cautions all owners and renters to remain alert and attentive while cooking.

o Elsewhere in *the House Special* please note information regarding Fairfax County's new fire regulations which are effective June 1. Management will be informing us on new evacuation procedures as they are finalized. Watch for it!

o A few final reminders on Fire Safety: Please don't throw lighted cigarettes off the balcony--watch food on the stove--be safe, keep your neighbors safe, and stay alert.

o One more important issue: As mentioned at the annual meeting, speeding in the garage continues to be a problem. PLEASE, stay within the posted speed limit, 5 MPH, and turn on your lights when entering. Pedestrians will thank you.

o The next committee meeting will be held on Thursday, July 14 in the East Card Room -- Be there! Please!

On May 24, Jim Dixon of J.L. Jennings, Inc., General Contractor for Crossroads Center at Baileys Crossroads, was interviewed and provided information concerning this new construction in our neighborhood.

He advised that a number of people did not want this construction to take place but now that it is underway, he hopes that everyone will be happy with it. Many changes will take place at this intersection. New overhead signs on Route 7 will be installed. Route 7 in each direction will be widened to three lanes with right and left hand turn lanes into the Crossroads Center. There will be an entirely new set of traffic lights. A sidewalk will be provided up to Wiz and on both sides of the entrance to the Center.


Truck access to the Center will be on Payne St. which is the street adjacent to the Center. There will be extensive work on Columbia Pike with an entrance on Morley Lane which will lead one to the Safeway Market Place.

A planting of trees, shrubs, and scenic walls will be used to screen the residential and commercial areas. A number of trees will be planted in the well-lighted parking area. There will be limited seating in front of some of the stores.

As of this date, the following stores will be located at the Crossroads Center at Baileys:

Ruby Tuesday, Filenes, Marshalls,
Bed Bath & Beyond, Service Merchandize
The Cosmetic Center, Payless Shoes,
Staples, Borders Books (the only two story
building), and Safeway Market Place.

There are several other spaces still available. The Center is scheduled to open during the first week in November. There will be additional details later this summer.



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