



The

# House Special

VOLUME XIV

OCTOBER 1994

NO. 10

## *PRESIDENT'S REPORT*

### **David Tilson, President**

The following matters discussed at the September 28 Board Meeting are of particular interest to unit owners:

Income and revenue experience so far this year leave us comfortably in the black at the present time. We probably will have a small surplus at the end of the year. The board approved a recommendation by the Financial Management Committee to accept a cash management proposal from NationsBank. Among the several services this new arrangement will provide, is the ability of unit owners who wish to do so to have their condo fees automatically transferred from their checking account to the Skyline House account at NationsBank on the first of each month. Management will explain this in a letter to unit owners and give those who wish to do so an opportunity to sign up for this service. Unit owners who prefer to continue mailing in their checks with payment coupons can do so. But we expect the new procedure to be viewed as a convenience by many unit owners.

Preparation of the annual budget is almost complete. The process consists of a draft budget being prepared by management and submitted to the Financial Management Committee. This is then reviewed and discussed in detail by that Committee together with the Treasurer. When the Committee completes its review, it will present the budget at a Town Meeting. Unit owners will be able to ask questions and comment on the proposed budget. **The**

date of the Town Meeting was set for Monday, October 24. The Financial Management Committee will consider all suggestions received at this meeting in making its budget recommendations to the Board. The Board must approve the 1995 Budget at its November meeting, which is scheduled for November 17. Although the exact amount is not known, I anticipate a modest increase in condo fees.

### **Security**

Several matters affecting security were discussed. Inappropriate behavior -- including vandalism -- by some users of the billiard rooms has been a continuing problem. The Security, Financial Management, and Physical Plant and Operations Committees have endorsed a management proposal to deal with this problem by replacing the existing wooden doors on the billiard rooms with glass doors. The Board approved this plan, which will cost less than \$3,000 for both billiard rooms.

The initial meeting to revive the Neighborhood Watch at Skyline House was well attended: about 32 unit owners showed up. Neighborhood Watch is an important security measure for our community that depends on volunteers. It deserves strong and continuing support from unit owners.

Another security measure that we expect will be helpful is the renting of unit 114W, which is owned by the Condominium (it was originally the resident manager's apartment), to a Fairfax County policeman. Although he will have no specific security responsibilities, we hope his presence and visibility will deter would-be . . . (Continued on Page 3)



The

# House Special

Editor: Law Henderson

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(703) 578-4855

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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.

ADVERTISING: A rate card, showing the costs and sizes, is available from the Business Office. If there are services and/or tradespeople with whom you have dealt, let the Business Office, 578-4855, know so that we may pursue them as advertisers. The appearance of advertisements in *the House Special* does not constitute endorsement by the Association.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Neighbors:

With the proliferation of restaurants in this area, we face the question of which, if any, to frequent. Part of that problem has been solved for us through the recent opening of the *VOLARE* Restaurant just a few doors away from the Baileys Crossroads Post Office.

This is of particular interest to us at *Skyline House* since the owners and operators are our long time neighbors, the Donas family, who live in the West Building.

A real family restaurant, the specialties are Italian and Greek in nature and they also serve pizza and traditional delicatessen sandwiches.

The dining room is bright and roomy and the diner can see the kitchen in operation. The service is guaranteed to be quick and friendly since the owner and his charming wife are also assisted by their three daughters when needed.

There is one caution however, based on our experience and that is the really large portions that are served. When I commented on that, Mrs. Donas said, "You can't tell a Greek to serve smaller portions." So, beware, but do give it a try!

Jack & Aiko Herzig  
310 West

Dear Neighbors:

Please save your Safeway and Giant receipts for me. Last year, my school - Ellen Glasgow Middle School - was able to buy 5 printers, 4 disc drives and some software because of help from friends such as *Skyline House* and my old apartment building. Safeway's drive started on August 1 and Giant on September 18 - so please deposit the receipts in the box at the Main Desk. Thank you very much.

Andrew York

(Continued from Page 1) criminals. He will move in very soon.

### Redecorating

Dick Noonan, Chair of the Decorating Committee responsible for redecorating the residential corridors, reported that his committee selected two interior designers who were commissioned to propose three designs each. They did so, and the Committee selected three designs that will be exhibited on presentation boards in the Main Lobby sometime next week. One of the designers will have one board and the other, two. Unit owners will have the opportunity to ask questions about the work of the committee and to comment on the designs at the October 24 Town Meeting. Before the meeting, I will send a letter and a survey form to all unit owners, inviting them to indicate which of the designs they favor. The results of this survey will be considered by the Decorating Committee in making its final recommendation to the Board. The Board expects to receive and act on the Committee's recommendation at the November 17 Board meeting.

### Town Meeting

Please plan to attend a Town Meeting of all unit owners on **October 24, at 7:30 p.m. in the West Party Room**. There will be two planned agenda items, but also an opportunity for the residents to bring up other matters they wish to have discussed:

1. The proposed plan for redecorating the residential corridors;
2. The proposed 1995 Skyline House Budget.

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS

### Helen Sarbanes Drivas, Chair

The *Skyline Plaza* Community Relations Committee has invited the candidates for the U.S. House of Representatives seat for this district to attend its annual candidates forum. All Three candidates--incumbent Congresswoman Leslie Byrne (D) and challengers Thomas M. Davis III (R), Chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, and Gordon Cruikshank (I)--have accepted our invitation. The meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, October 13 at 7:30 p.m. in the south party room of *Skyline Plaza*. The race has already received national attention. Don't miss this opportunity to meet the candidates and to hear their views on local and national issues of importance to you. *Skyline House* residents are invited. Mark your calendar now so that you won't miss this event.


**If you have not already done so---register to vote!** October 8 is the deadline to register for the November 8 general election. To confirm your registration or obtain additional information' call the Fairfax Registrar's Office at (703) 222-0776.

There will be a Mason District Town Meeting on

**Thursday, November 3, 1994  
7:30 p.m.  
Camelot Elementary School Cafeteria  
8100 Guinevere Drive**

The following public officials will be present to speak:

Christine R. Trapnell, Mason District Supervisor  
William J. Leidinger, County Executive  
Edward L. Long, Jr. Director, Office of Management and Budget  
Paula A. Johnson, Superintendant Area II, Fairfax County Public Schools  
Captain William N. Brown, Fairfax County Police, Commander Mason Station  
First Lieutenant Audrey M. Slyman, Fairfax County Police, Mason Station  
Jane Gwinn, Administrator, Zoning Administration



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**COVENANTS COMMITTEE****Frances Blumberg, Chair**

The committee met in August but no one showed up for the meeting. I think it would be great if you would or could take the time to fill out a complaint form when the need is indicated and that you would come to the meetings and see for yourself how the system works. Any suggestions would be welcome concerning how this slow system could be improved.

Our next meeting will be October 11, 1994 at 7:30 p.m. in the West Card Room. Please try to attend - we need your help to make this the kind of place we can be proud of.

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## PHYSICAL PLANT & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

### Gordon Frank, Acting Chair

Fourteen residents attended the September 8, 1994 meeting of the Physical Plant and Operations Committee (PPOC). among them was Helen Drivas, 906E, whom we hope will continue to attend our meetings.

After a clarifying discussion, the Committee approved the minutes of the July 7, 1994 meeting. The Acting Chair reported that at the July 28, 1994 Board meeting, the President had requested the Secretary to send letters of appreciation to the members of the Landscape Subcommittee of the PPOC to acknowledge the latter's exemplary effort in beautifying the Skyline House grounds. The Board also agreed to include PPOC items in *the House Special* column written by the President.

Laurie Lakey agreed to record the minutes of the November 3, 1994 PPOC meeting and Ross McAskill agreed to be the recorder for the January 5, 1995 meeting.

The General Manager had five items for the Committee. He reported a forthcoming power outage in the East Building in order to replace a malfunctioning transformer. He also reported on the plan to have **Skyline Square** owners vote on the possibility of enclosing their balconies. He also told us about continuing discussions with **Skyline Square** and **Skyline Plaza** to provide mutual support to each other in the event of an emergency. He used as an example the possibility of an operating engineer from one condominium association helping another in the event of a sudden illness. He said that Skyline House residents would be allowed to use the Skyline Plaza Pool until its planned closing for the season on October 1. Finally, the General Manager briefed us on the conversations he has had with the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) about the plans by the VDOT to improve the traffic patterns at the newly installed traffic light at the exit driveway.

The committee reviewed the Maintenance Log actions and found the process to be working

properly. No significant problems were evident.

After reviewing the list of continuing items, the Committee agreed to eliminate 12 of them because they are either completed or else no action is contemplated in the future. The next agenda will list only those items of continuing interest. During the discussion, the Acting Chair did agree to pursue with the Security Committee Chair the reason for locking the door from the roof to the promenade. The Chair will report at the next PPOC meeting.

During new business, the PPOC discussed with the General Manager, the proliferation of signs on the West Building lobby doors, the possibility of additional storage lockers that would be installed in empty space in the East Building, the plan to clarify recycling instructions and procedures, the plan for maintaining the exterior of the residential towers to prevent air and water leaks, improving the guidance for truckers making deliveries to our unloading docks, improve and publicize the suggestion/complaint form, the forthcoming quotations for tiling the East Building/Garage bridge, needed repairs to leaks in the roof of the exercise room, replacement of the light near the bus stop, the completed repairs to the damaged wall near the driveway entrance, the contractor's plan to rectify the puddling in the recently repaired driveway and parking area, and improvements to the exit driveway markings and signs.

Subsequent to the meeting and in lieu of a special meeting, the members of the PPOC responded to a written request by the Acting Chair to indicate their support of the plan to replace the metal doors to the Billiard Rooms with glass doors. The new doors would improve the lighting in the rooms and tend to reduce vandalism by providing increased visibility into the rooms.

The PPOC meets at 8 PM on the first Thursday following the first Wednesday (we never meet on the first day of the month) of each odd numbered month (i.e. January, March, etc.). Owners and residents are always welcome!

**RECREATION COMMITTEE****Tony DiSalvo & Dave Harvey, Co-Chairs**

A reminder of the activities for the remainder of the year.

A Halloween Covered Dish will be held on Friday, October 28, at 6:30 p.m. in the West Party Room. Full details will be found in the flyer announcing the Covered Dish Dinner. If you have any questions contact Sophie Anderson, (379-1585) or Liza Ruiz (998-5282), who will be hosting this activity. There is no charge, but please sign up at the front desk.

A flea market is scheduled for Thursday, November 27. The hours will be from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the East Party Room. There will be no charge to reserve a table. Selling will be RESTRICTED to Skyline House residents. This is a good time for you to sell those heirlooms which are taking up space. Complete details on how to reserve a table will appear in the November newsletter.

We have received two requests for tables from Crafts people, one who makes her own jewelry (she was present at the last flea market) and another who crochets elegant articles as well as holiday ornaments.

A reminder for those who follow the *Alexandria Singers* who performed for us at Skyline House last year, their next concert is scheduled for Sunday, October 23. Call 941-SING for reserved tickets.

The next TGIF will be Friday, October 7 in the West Party Room at 6:30 p.m.

If you are a new resident and haven't attended the monthly TGIF, make this your first and meet your neighbors. YOU are more than welcome and to make it easier, you are requested NOT to bring a plate of *hors d'oeuvres*, just your own liquid refreshment.

The next committee meeting will be Wednesday, October 12 in the West Card Room at 7:30 p.m. Why not join us?

**FUTURE ACTIVITIES**

TGIF	Fri	Oct 7	WPR	6:30 p.m.
Rec Com	Wed	Oct 12	WCR	7:30 p.m.
Covered Dish	Fri	Oct 28	WPR	6:30 p.m.
TGIF	Fri	Nov 4	EPR	6:30 p.m.

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## **THE GOOD NEIGHBOR GROUP**

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

○ The Volunteer Good Neighbors for October are:

### **SKYLINE HOUSE GOOD NEIGHBORS**

October 1994

Jerry Hudson 845-8141  
Susie Phillips 845-1643

○ A Good Neighbor table in the front lobby from 5 - 7 p.m. on September 14 was manned by the September Good Neighbors. A number of residents stopped to talk about the program and take a brochure with them. Others stopped just to talk and get better acquainted. Refreshments were provided and enjoyed.

Some visitors were interested in the chart showing pictures of the Good Neighbors who served during the first half of the year - January to June.

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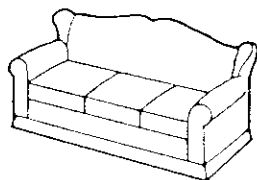
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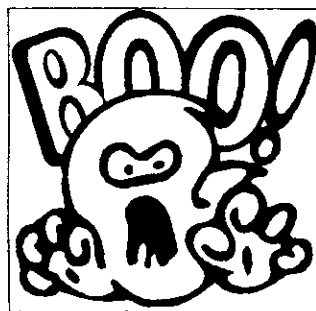
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1994**

**Cocktails: 6:30 PM - Dinner: 7:00 PM**



Cocktails: Bring your own beverage. Ice & glasses will be furnished.

Dinner: Bring either a main entree, or two of the following: salad (but not green salad)  
vegetable dish  
dessert



COUPLES please bring enough food for EIGHT persons.  
SINGLES please bring enough food for FOUR persons.

IF YOU ARE BRINGING GUEST(S), PLEASE BRING SUFFICIENT FOOD ACCORDING TO THE NUMBER.  
Rolls, coffee & tea will be provided.



There is no charge, but please sign up at the FRONT DESK. Come join your friends in the WEST PARTY ROOM.

Presented by THE SKYLINE HOUSE RECREATION COMMITTEE.





**MANAGEMENT REPORT**

Donald Fenton, General Manager

**NOTICE**

**ANYONE INTERESTED IN HAVING OUR  
CONDOMINIUM FEES *AUTOMATICALLY*  
DEDUCTED FROM THEIR CHECKING  
ACCOUNT, PLEASE STOP IN THE  
ACCOUNTING OFFICE BEFORE  
NOVEMBER 1, 1994.  
SPECIFIC DETAILS WILL BE  
FORTHCOMING NEXT MONTH.**

**BILLIARD ROOMS**

At the last Board of Directors meeting approval was given for installing see-through glass doors on the billiard rooms in both penthouses. This will enable all, including prospective investors, to observe the inside of the room.

**TRUCKS ... VANS...& OTHERS**

Over a period of time we all have experienced an increase of trucks, etc., parking in front of the West Building next to the lobby. Not only is it a safety hazard (fire department must come first to the front desk fire control room), an unsightly mess but the road maintenance costs are increased as the roadway is not built for such traffic. In addition, it is not supposed to be the rule. In an effort to address all of the procedures, management has revised its move-in/out, delivery, carpet, etc., form to be just one form with the procedures outlined on the back. When you reserve the loading dock for any reason please continue to notify the office so that we can reserve the area for you. At that time we will complete the form and provide a copy to you. But back to the procedure, the following is an excerpt:

**All moves-in/out and deliveries must be accomplished between the hours of 8 a.m. and 8 p.m. (the latest time of completion), Monday thru Saturday. No moves or deliveries, except**

**penthouse catering services are allowed on Sundays or National Holidays. You must complete the event and return the service elevator key to the front desk no later than 8 p.m. (The roll-up doors will be closed at 8 p.m.)**

**All uses must be via the loading dock entrances, roll-up or personnel door. It is prohibited to use any other entrances for these purposes. Deliveries to either penthouse (catering) or to a unit when the service elevator is not available must be made via the loading dock, then use the G-level in the West Building or the S-level in the East Building to a passenger elevator. You must make special arrangements with the Management Office to utilize a passenger elevator as special padding and/or an escort may be required.**

**PLEASE ADVISE YOUR DELIVERY OR MOVING COMPANY that they are to go directly to the loading dock of your building upon entering Skyline House property and to call from the loading dock via the intercom at the personnel door to advise the front desk of who they are, their vehicle license number and the unit to which they are delivering. A resident or other authorized person of the unit must be present to receive all deliveries, etc. The front desk will call your unit so that you can meet the delivery personnel at the loading dock in order to provide an escort. If necessary, the front desk may open the roll-up door to facilitate the applicable use.**

**CARPETING:** When more than one room of carpeting is to be installed in an unit the following procedure should be followed:

1. Transport equipment and personnel via service elevator to unit. New carpeting may be temporarily stored in the applicable loading dock at the installer's risk.
2. Tear up old carpeting in unit.

3 Remove old carpeting from unit directly to the service elevator and thence to the installer's vehicle. (Do not store any old carpeting in any common area of Skyline House.)

4. Transport new carpeting via service elevator to unit. Storage of new carpet in the hallway adjacent to the unit is allowed along as hallway is not blocked more than 50%. Carpet cleaning or other equipment may only be operated within the unit and no source of power other than from within the unit may be utilized.

5. Transport equipment and personnel via the service elevator upon completion of the job. The service elevator will be locked off only during the time of actual transport.

**DO NOT DISPOSE OF CARPETING, PADDING OR ANY OTHER MATERIAL(S) ON SITE - ALL MATERIALS MUST BE REMOVED FROM SKYLINE HOUSE.**

Any deviations or exceptions from these procedures must be noted on the front of this form.

**Note: The priority system (#1 highest) is as follows. A delivery is never any higher priority than #2. The first move-in/out will be scheduled as #1. If you are a priority #2 and #1 needs the elevator, you must relinquish the key.**

### NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

The kickoff organizational and training meeting last week was a huge success. Over 30 (count them) thirty residents showed up. Our patrols should be starting shortly. Each patrol will consist of a minimum of two residents bearing Neighborhood Watch Identification whose duty is to **OBSERVE & REPORT** not to confront.

It is expected that the patrols will be equipped with a radio connected to Skyline House's emergency network. The patrol requires a resident's effort of a minimum of **1 hour per month**. Surely we can afford this. Our alternatives are not so many. To hold down crime, etc., we can hire extra contract or in-house Security personnel at a high cost. For example just to provide 8 hours of coverage, per day, per

week costs in excess of \$32,000. Consider that when our current contract Security costs are about \$73,000 per year. To increase the force would require an increase of about 2% of the condo fee, which by the way, if you are a renter, would probably show up as an increase in rent. A proposal to increase the force is currently in the 1995 Budget but if we have a **real** active Neighborhood Watch it probably would be taken out. So it is up to us participate or pay. Please drop by the management office and sign up for the program. Patrols are now being formed....

We also will provide etching tools to any registered resident so that they may etch their VAOL#(Virginia Operators License Number) onto their equipment such as TVs, Stereos, VCRs etc... In case of theft when found it is the first thing trained Police Officers look for. Several cases have been solved and property returned to its owner because of this. Your Operators License number should be preceded by the letters "VAOL". **Come on join the Watch.**

By the way, we have had a day time jewelry burglary occur in the East Building, the perpetrator(s) have not been apprehended. In another occurrence, a "kindly lady" let two well known (to the police) punks into the building through the East Bridgeway. They came in through the garage door along with an entering car. Fortunately, they were reported by the driver. They found their way to the Bridgeway, knocked, and were let in. Because of the driver's report, one of our new front desk clerks with a security background caught them on an upper floor. Both were permanently banned and released to their parents. Later on this last week another resident was observed, stopping to remove his mail, to go over to the West Lobby Door and opened it to a person carrying a coffee urn and bags. A few moments later another person came from the front desk and asked "how did you get in?" I hope the person who did this reads this. If we observe it you will get a summons to the hearing committee and you should hope that your unit isn't the next one to get hit. Last but not least, another resident let the cheerleaders of a local High School in through the West Lobby and then they proceeded to go door to door soliciting.... They were ejected.. Whoever said we are our own worst enemies was certainly right.....

## **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

### **Bill Miller, Chair**

The Financial Management Committee (FMC) held a special committee meeting on September 7, 1994, in the Association conference room, Unit C2W, to consider Management's proposed cash management system and the financial institution to be utilized.

The meeting consisted of two segments. First, a presentation on NationsBank's cash management proposal was given by Mr. Henry N. Conway, III, Vice President and Ms. Rosalie A. Lawson, Treasury Management Agent. After a noon intermission, Signet Bank's cash management proposal was given by Mr. William H. Jones, Assistant Vice President. After the second presentation, the committee members, Association Treasurer, General Manager and Association Accountant discussed the pros and cons of the system itself and the two financial institutions being considered as our representative. The committee voted to recommend the Board of Directors approve implementation of the cash management system by management and that NationsBank be selected as our financial institution. The committee's recommendation was forwarded by memorandum to the Secretary of the Board of Directors on September 16, 1994.

The following are some of the major factors considered in determining the FMC recommendation:

- Protection of funds and investments;
- Direct deposit of condo fees;
- Efficiency and workload of accounting personnel;
- Increase interest income to the Association;
- No increase over present costs;
- Possible future cost reduction.
- Not locked into term length with financial institution;
- Staff relationship with financial institution;
- Investments in US Treasury protected documents;
- More effective use of personnel.

Management's 1995 proposed budget was reviewed by the FMC budget subcommittee on September 12, 1994. The full committee reviewed the recommendation of the subcommittee at our regular meeting on September 15, 1994. The proposed 1995 budget, with a few minor changes, was approved by the FMC, minus the reserves portion of the budget. The complete recommended budget package for 1995, including the recommended reserve funding, will be forwarded to the Board of Directors for approval.

A review of all Association fees will be an agenda item for the next FMC meeting. The next regular meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 17, 1994 in the East Card Room.

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## **SECURITY, FIRE & SAFETY COMMITTEE**

### **Millie Foley, Chair**

The Security Committee met on September 15 with six members/visitors present.

Incidents which occurred at Skyline House during July and August were reviewed and lighting in the garage was again discussed.

Please remember to keep your lights on while driving in the garage, observe the posted speed limit and do not tail gate when entering the garage.

Our next meeting will be the second Thursday in November (the 10th).

# Discover more

drama

treasures

fun

DISCOVER  
MORE  
AT

# Skyline Mall

Route 7 and Bailey's Crossroads

Mall Hours: Monday - Saturday 10am - 9pm, Sunday 12pm - 5pm

Free Parking after 5pm and on weekends. 2 Hours Free parking Monday - Friday

## RESTAURANTS

Italian Gardens	820-4558
Bread & Chocolate	379-8005
McDonald's	379-0768
Skyline Cafe	845-8585
The Pawnshop Restaurant	998-5306

## ENTERTAINMENT & RECREATION

Audio Buys	578-3033
Discovery Zone	379-6900
Forbes Video	671-0022
The Fun Company	845-1155
The Skyline Clubs	820-4100
Waxie Maxie's	578-4472

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Pierre Fine Jewelers	820-8888
Royal Lingerie	820-0033
Second Image	671-0486
ShoeTown	998-5595

## FOOD SPECIALTY

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Larry's Cookies/Freshens Yogurt	931-2779

## PERSONAL SERVICES

From Head to Toe	In the Skyline Clubs
Josie Rivera - Manicure/Pedicure	820-4100
Luis Manrique - Masseur	820-4100

## GIFTS & SPECIALTY STORES

Bauer Optical	671-1313
B. Dalton Bookseller	820-4250
Curious Kids	820-1905
Dollar Shop	845-5713
The Hobby Port	820-6450
K's Hallmark	820-1203
Merle Norman	671-9209
Rite Aid	998-9814
Skyline Florist	998-7907
Skyline Nutrition Center	578-6460
Tract Software	671-2448

## MOVIES

AMC Skyline 1 - 6 Theatres	998-4AMC
AMC Skyline 7 - 12 Theatres	998-4AMC

## SPECIALTY SERVICES

Central Fidelity Bank	824-1510
Dr. Michael Cohen, Optometrist	671-1313
Mail Boxes, Etc.	845-1221
Nichole's Hairline	820-1100
Omega World Travel	998-7330
Sam's Fashion Designs & Tailoring	931-3024
Skyline Custom Cleaners	578-0787
Skyline Newsstand	671-8161
Spencer's Safe & Lock	671-2448

Mail Management Office	931-0808
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