



The

House Special

VOLUME XV

SEPTEMBER 1995

NO. 9

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Gordon Frank, President

Good News!

In a note to me in response to my last column in *The House Special*, Toska Prather, Unit 1003W, has agreed to be the Acting Chair of the Community Relations Committee. Thank you Toska! Toska will work with Board Members Barbara Michelman and Richard Noonan to revitalize the committee. Barbara has represented the Unit Owner's Association at many of the hearings and meetings affecting the quality of life in the Baileys Crossroads area.

Dick is the Board liaison to the Community Relations Committee. Recognizing the broad range of responsibilities for this committee, Toska has indicated a preference to work with a Co-Chair. If you are interested in working as a Co-Chair or a member of the Community Relations Committee, please contact Toska, Barbara or Dick. Please help assure that our Association has a voice in our Mason District government.

Congratulations!

On behalf of all of us I wish to extend to Law and Helen Henderson our heartiest congratulations on their fiftieth anniversary which they celebrated on August 14. As many of you know Law is the editor of *The House Special* and Helen is once again serving on the Board. Both have been most generous in donating their time to Skyline

House. They set an example for all. And from all our very best wishes go to both of them.

To Tony DiSalvo, 502E, the Chair of the Recreation Committee, and now a recognized gourmet cook and budding author, congratulations also on the publication of three of his recipes on page 132 of the September issue of *Bon Appetit* magazine. Those of us who attend the monthly TGIF parties in the Party Room on the first Friday of each month sometimes have the opportunity to sample some of Tony's delicious recipes. Come to the next one to taste one of Tony's tempting creations.

Friends not Foes!

The Management and staff here at Skyline House are here to serve owners and residents. At all times they are to be shown the courtesy and respect that their efforts on our collective behalf deserve. Similarly, the staff has been instructed to show you the same courtesy that your interest deserves. Problems are resolved more quickly and easily if respondents focus on factual information and maintain emotional stability during any discussion.

A number of residents with suggestions and complaints about the operation of Skyline House have chosen to wait for Board meetings to air their comments. While the Board and management are most willing to listen, frequently these issues could have been handled more quickly by using the procedures that already exist for such matters. There is no need to let your



The House Special

Editor: Law Henderson

Advertising: Skyline House
Business Office
(703) 578-4855

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preceding issue date

Published: Monthly

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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anger build while you wait for an opportunity to complain. Report problems to Management or front desk personnel immediately. A Maintenance Log is maintained at the front desk. Should any resident or owner notice any needed maintenance or repair, simply enter the problem in the log and describe the location of the problem. Unless there are special problems such as difficulty obtaining replacement parts, most maintenance complaints will be cured within a day or two. The Physical Plant and Operations Committee monitors Maintenance Log entries and actions at each of its meetings to assure that the process works smoothly.

If you notice a violation of the rules such as speeding in the garage, tailgating through the garage entrance door, or vandalism, please report them to the front desk as soon as possible. Record as much data as you can remember. Provide a description of the violator, license number and description of the car if one is involved, the date and time of the incident and any other helpful information. Forms are maintained at the front desk to enable residents to record the needed information for Management. In a like manner to the Maintenance Log, the Covenants Committee monitors reported violations and may be asked to act against those who repeatedly violate the rules of our Association. Those who choose to ignore Management requests to cease inappropriate behavior may face a Covenants Committee Hearing. The outcome could be a special assessment that is lienable against the owner's condominium. A final reminder that each of us is fully responsible for the actions of our guests.

Neighborhood Watch!

I was one of about 50 residents who attended Fairfax County Police Officer P. J. Taylor's Neighborhood Watch seminar on August 7, 1995. I learned a lot. One of the most important lessons was the fact that there are many other aspects to neighborhood security in addition to our walking patrols. Those at the meeting were largely the same stalwarts who are also active in many of the committees and activities here.

The HOUSE SPECIAL

There is a watch role for almost everyone who owns or lives here at Skyline House. Please come to the next Neighborhood Watch meeting and learn how you can help improve the security of the Skyline House community. It would be wonderful if we could see some different faces (in addition to the familiar ones) at the next meeting!

Insurance!

There have been several instances where thoughtless actions or failure to properly maintain equipment in one residential unit has caused damage to another. For your own financial protection and to protect your neighbors and the Association, each unit owner should carry appropriate condominium insurance to protect against personal injury lawsuits and property damage claims as well as insuring your own possessions. Renters should also purchase a renter's insurance policy to protect against personal injury claims by visitors and to be able to recover personal property losses. Owners and renters wishing guidance on their insurance needs should contact the management office or their insurance agent.

Governance!

I still seek volunteers to work on the continuing problem of governance of the Association. We are a community of many cultures and broad professional experience. It seems to me that participation on the Board and the committees does not reflect the diversity of the cultures or the breadth of expertise that lives here in Skyline House. We will not have solved the problem of assuring successful continuing governance until more of you step forward to participate in governing the Association. Those few who are now active risk burnout from too few doing too much. If you have lived here for a while or have just moved in and have not yet been active and would like to be, please attend one or more committee meetings or contact me (Unit #1111W). The directors, committee chairs, management and I would be pleased to welcome you aboard!

SEPTEMBER 1995

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VOTER REGISTRATION

Wednesday, September 27

7:00 to 8:30 PM

Skyline Plaza - North Card Room

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

**Ground and General Maintenance
Must Have Transportation
Must Be Very Reliable
7 Hours per day / 6 days per week
\$24,00 per year salary**


CALL (703) 845-1755

RECREATION COMMITTEE

 **Tony DiSalvo, Chair**

The Committee met on August 9, in the West Party Room.

A Covered Dish Dinner will be held on Friday, September 22, 1995, at 6:30 PM in the West Party Room. Full details will be found elsewhere in this issue and also posted on the bulletin board. If you have any questions, contact Sophie Anderson (379-1585) or Liza Ruiz (990-5282), who will be hosting this activity. There is no charge, but please sign up at the front desk and indicate what you will bring; entrée, vegetable or dessert. The Recreation Committee will provide dinner rolls. Full details will also be located with the sign up sheet.


 Mark your calendar for a flea Market on Thursday, November 16, at 7:00 PM in the East Party Room. Table reservation details will be published in the November newsletter or earlier.

There will be a Recreation Committee meeting on Wednesday, September 13, in the East Card Room at 7:30 PM. Please join us.

The August TGIF was attended by several new residents. We welcome them and hope that they return.

Thanks to Mike Moore, who has been preparing Recreation Committee flyers for the bulletin board, and also thanks to Mimi Frank who provided the flyer for the Covered Dish Dinner.

If you are a new resident and have not attended the monthly TGIF, make this your first opportunity to 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 bring your own liquid refreshment.

 The next TGIF will be on Friday, September 8, in the East Party Room at 6:30 PM. The TGIF will NOT be held on the first Friday since it falls on

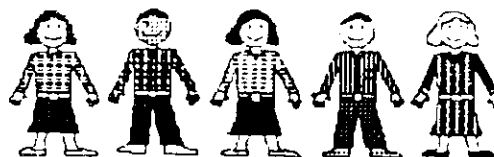
the Labor Day weekend. Why not join us?

TGIF	Fri	Sep 8	EPR	6:30 PM
RecCom	Wed	Sep 13	ECR	7:30 PM
TGIF	Fri	Oct 6	WPR	6:30 PM
RecCom	Wed	Oct 11	WCR	7:30 PM

♡♡♡♡♡♡♡♡♡♡

THE GOOD NEIGHBOR GROUP

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



The volunteers for September are:

SKYLINE HOUSE GOOD NEIGHBORS
September 1995

Geraldine Naveau 931-4643
Ann Preston 931-7679

A Skyline House resident, after receiving some assistance from the Good Neighbors, wrote a beautiful thank-you note. The note said, "How thankful I am for Skyline Good Neighbors, especially for my good neighbors, the Randalls. Thank you for helping me. Thank you for making Skyline House such a special place to live."

The good Neighbors are pleased to be appreciated. We are on hand for all Skyline House residents and are pleased to provide needed services. Call on us if you need temporary help due to illness, emergency or disability.

Call us if you would like to be a Good Neighbor. We need to replace some who have moved.

MANAGEMENT REPORT

o WHAT IS TAILGATING?

Tailgating is the act of entry into the garage **without** using **YOUR** remote control or garage card to activate the door while **you are first in line** at the door and or not waiting until at least **one** panel of the garage door has closed since the vehicle before you has entered.

People who do not have either a specially coded remote control device or garage card, gain entrance if they interrupt the safety light bar before the door is allowed to be closed when activated by another vehicle. This act is disturbing to the driver of the lead vehicle as he does not know whether the other is authorized to enter. In the past we know that car thieves have gained entrance by this method. In any case you must use your remote control/garage card to activate the door for **you and yourself only**.

If you are behind another vehicle, allow a minimum of one complete door panel to close before using your activator. This allows the driver in the car ahead to see the door in his rear view mirror, signaling that the person has used his activator. Another consideration is to allow at least 10 feet between the back and front bumpers of the cars. While many may consider it a courtesy, please do not activate your remote control when you are not the lead vehicle in an effort to help those in front of you. Many times you only add to their stress level.

What to do if tailgated:

1. Do NOT confront the driver
2. Pull to the side, allow the other vehicle to pass, get the following: (listed by importance)
 - a. License Number & State
 - b. Make of Vehicle
 - c. Description of Driver
 - d. Parking Space Number - if the vehicle is unoccupied get the DECAL NUMBER

3. Report this to Front Desk/Management Office ASAP. (You can even use one of the phones at each elevator lobby entrance.)

4. If you feel threatened or approached by the other driver:
 - a. Lock **all** your doors
 - b. Start blowing your horn
 - c. If possible continue to the TOP LEVEL (A) and park at far WEST - West Building A Level -enter here which is into Main Lobby
 - d. If unable to get out, continue blowing your horn until assistance arrives.

o REMOTE RECODING

Starting Monday, August 28, 1995 you may get your remote control devices recoded. The recoding period will cease October 1, 1995. At that time only legitimate recoded transmitters will open our garage entrance.....

o CAR/BURGLAR ALARMS

A special plea if there is anyone who is being disturbed by office/car/burglar alarms going off at odd hours, especially in the early morning, please contact the Management Office. We would like dates, times, possible locations, etc. Any help you can give will be appreciated. We ran this ad last month and no one responded. It is important that we be made aware of this. If only one or two people complain, the police may well place a lesser importance on the event.

o REDECORATION

The West Building redecoration is complete We are touching up the walls and the carpet installer is completing his "punch list". The East Building is complete except for the carpet which is well underway. The restriction on the use of the freight elevator applies only to the East Building. In case you haven't watched Channel 12 we are using the freight elevator to transport old carpeting out and new in. Some days are

better than others

LANDSCAPING

No rain for 35 days (at least nothing substantial) is placing a strain on the plants and flowers as well as the irrigation system. So far almost everything has survived. We are still looking for volunteers to help with the FALL pansy plantings. Also if anyone wants pansies once again we will have them at a nominal charge.

LOADING DOCK DOORS

Did you know that you can close the loading dock doors? Well, you can and you should. When you're finished with your delivery or move, merely push and hold the button located on the left side of the door (looking out from inside) marked "CLOSE". Or, if you come by and see the door open and no one about (however, check to see if movers are really there) - close the door. If you have received permission to have the door open and you want to contact the front desk, pick up the wall phone outside of the bottom level freight elevator turn around and face the security camera and you find yourself connected to the front desk.

A little extra security never hurts but a little less may.

INCOMING

Regrading of the parking lot in front of the West Lobby to eliminate ponding was completed as scheduled, however, once again we haven't had a good rain to fully test the work. The lobby/exercise room roof remains scheduled for replacement starting September 15. The bridgeway repair & recaulking is finished and another coat (gratis) is to be applied to the floor by the contractor.

CONGRATULATIONS

Debbie Germosen, (remember the young lady who replaced Adua while she was in Italy?)

has a new son Miguel Anthony. Mother and son are doing well and we expect Debbie to be back on duty by the time this issue is distributed.

Shortly, the new IN-UNIT MAINTENANCE FORM will be mailed out, please sign and return it... See the following page.



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(Solution to last month's puzzle)

IN-UNIT MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

Service Agreement

NAME _____ UNIT NO. _____

MAIL ADDRESS _____

(If to be billed to another address)

I (we) agree to the following terms and conditions:

1. The fee schedule in effect at the time of service will be followed.
2. The Association is indemnified and held harmless from and against any and all liability damages or claims associated with entry into the unit or the performance of work requested, except in the case of gross negligence or wilful misconduct.
3. If not at home, a key to the entrance of the unit must be provided, along with a completed Admit Slip for use by the Association.
Use of emergency unit keys is prohibited for in-unit maintenance admission.
4. Management has full authority to determine if a service requested shall be provided under the In-Unit Maintenance Program and to schedule the work so that it does not interfere with the normal routine of the staff.

DATE _____ SIGNED _____

Association use only:

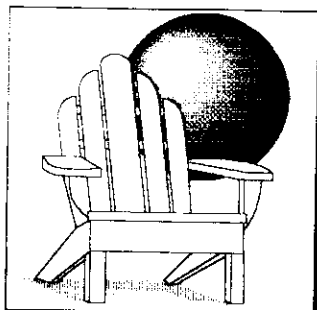
Accepted : YES _____ NO _____ REASON _____

Authorization _____ DATE _____

Account Number _____

Skyline House Unit Owners' Association, Inc.

Please return this completed form to the Management Office



SO LONG TO SUMMER COVERED DISH!

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1995
IN THE WEST PART ROOM**

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

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

Dinner: Bring either a main entree, or two (2) of the following: salad (but not green salad)

vegetable

dessert

COUPLES please bring enough food for EIGHT people.

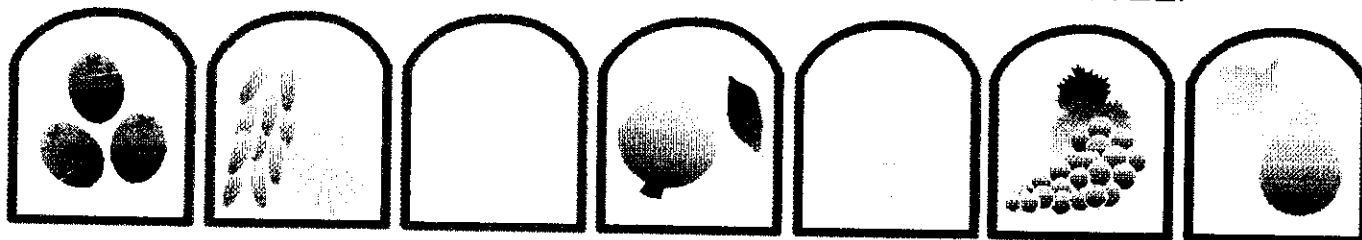
SINGLES please bring enough food for FOUR people.

IF YOU ARE BRINGING GUEST(S), PLEASE BRING SUFFICIENT FOOD ACCORDING TO THE NUMBER.

Rolls, coffee and 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.



Dental News from the Skyline Office of Dr. Stephen E. Burch

Looking for a Dental Office with Your Best Interests at Heart?.....

The most common *compliments* we hear from our new patients is that they feel like they have finally found a dental team that cares about them. They feel that their wants, needs, and concerns have been recognized and catered to. That's because our philosophy is - *the patient comes first*. We are constantly seeking new ways to bring a higher level of pampering, service, beauty, technologically, and patient education to our practice. As a result, our new patients notice a real difference from the first telephone contact, to the completion of their care. The foremost question in your mind should be, **"What makes this office different from all the rest?"**

Special Care for the Fearful Patient

Because we treat so many people who suffer from moderate to very high dental fear levels, we have developed a special sensitivity to their needs. These methods range from Valium premedication prior to the appointment, to Nitrous Oxide (laughing gas) with headphones, to Intravenous Sedation (a conscious sedation much safer than general anesthetic). We have learned the most important aspect of treating a patient with high anxiety is to reestablish **TRUST**.

With the new found sense of trust, they are able to avoid future dental emergencies, clear up bad breath, and create a smile they can be proud of. They no longer feel they need to shy away from personal interaction with others.

Diagnosis & Treatment of Halitosis (Bad Breath)

Until very recently, bad breath was not taken seriously. Our team not only recognizes that halitosis is a treatable disease, but most importantly, they recognize the intense psychological hardships people have suffered because of it. We at Implant & Cosmetic Dentistry will be able to quantitatively measure the severity, diagnose the causes, and construct a customized solution to your problem.

Whether you simply want to eliminate the possibilities of bad breath, or you know you need treatment, we can help.

90% Less Radiation Exposure

Although dental x-rays have always been considered safe, we are aware of the accumulative environmental exposure. Therefore, we brought computer generated radiographic imaging to the practice. The images can be viewed on a large computer monitor right in front of the patient rather than on a small x-ray film. Our patients receive up to **90% less radiation** when this process is used, and they can become involved in all aspects of their care.

Do I really need that Treatment?

In this highly educated consumer oriented society, we have found that patients welcome the opportunity to be a partner in diagnosis, and learning the facts through audio visual presentations that allow them to make informed decisions regarding treatment options.

Never before have we been able to provide such *personalized* care. A **full range of general dental** services are available in our office. But, as you can see, our office goes beyond the usual and customary care. Along with the special services listed in this article, we also provide truly artistic, **natural looking cosmetic dentistry** and smile enhancement; and **dental implant services** that can be completed in one location by Dr. Burch and his staff.

Advanced Dental Breakdown

We have found that as a rule, patients have sought us out because they have special needs. Until now, they have been unsuccessful finding other dental teams who have the advanced training, understanding of bio-engineering, and the artistic ability needed to handle their complex dental problems they have been trying desperately to resolve. So, if we can be of service, please call for an appointment.

Stephen E. Burch, D.D.S., Ltd.
Four Skyline Place
5113 Leesburg Pike, Suite 112
845-1100

SPECIAL REPORT

SUDS, SUDS AND MORE SUDS.

Suds

sud (SUDZ) plural noun

1. Soapy Water
2. Foam, lather
3. *Slang*, Beer

(Perhaps from obsolete Dutch *zudse*, marsh, from Middle Dutch *sudse*.)

De-ter-gent

noun

A cleansing substance that acts similarly to soap but is made from chemical compounds rather than fats and lye.

adjective

Having cleansing power. *

An ever increasing problem that apparently most high rise condominium residents are facing is the blockage of drains because of the excess use of soap powder

'suds in their **washing**. The power of suds is overwhelming. Did you know that suds can block the flow of water through a drain pipe, especially if there is a dip or sag in a pipe? More and more often residents on the lower floors of a tier are finding their kitchen sink and sometimes their floors covered with the products of washing machines, dishwashers, sinks and garbage disposals. Not a pleasant experience. What can we do as good neighbors to eliminate this nuisance of over sudsing?

First and foremost, **FRONT LOADING** machines, (THIS IS THE TYPE HERE AT SKYLINE HOUSE)

require only $\frac{1}{2}$ the amount of detergent as a top loader machine. Second, only **A LOW SUDSING DETERGENT** should be used. Look for and purchase only "**low sudsing**" detergents. If the CONTAINER doesn't state "low sudsing" you **shouldn't** be using that product. Please follow the directions on the container or the manual that came with your machine for the proper amount. Remember, if the directions do not say front loader then use no more $\frac{1}{2}$ than the directions indicate. Do the same for your dishwasher and sink detergents. A little trick to

get rid of extra suds, a result of **too much detergent**, sprinkle some **table salt** on the suds. This will knock them down dramatically. Third, always flush your kitchen sink garbage disposal with a goodly amount of clear water after you finish grinding. By following the above we should be able to reduce if not eliminate waste water backups into units.

When you hear a gurgling sound from the pipe holes where your washing machine hoses empty into the wall it usually means your drains are starting to clog and may back up. Its time to have your drain "snaked out". Give a call to In-Unit maintenance or your friendly plumber.

If you are having a problem please write down the time, date, location and type then notify the office. We are keeping a log in an effort to minimize the problem. We have been advised that this is not an isolated problem and strikes particularly in high rise buildings. The Association has even purchased its own high pressure water jet snake/cleaner and we can assure you that our pipes are clean, out to the large pipes in the street. Recently we were told that in areas where the pipes were dug up because they were thought to be collapsed or plugged they were instead found to be very clean. The suds, however, continue to block the passage of water until the bubbles break. No device or chemical apparently exists that will break down these bubbles. The use of saline or salt on a regular basis in our pipes, which are cast iron, is destructive to the metal. So the best way remains is to **NOT HAVE EXCESS SUDS IN THE FIRST PLACE**.

We have had cases where so much soap powder has been used that raw powder has come down the system. This usually is caused by children using the washing machine.

So let's use:

1. Low Sudsing Detergents;
2. No PHOSPHATES;
3. The manufactures recommended amount;
4. Pretreat your clothes = rubbing a little liquid detergent into the soiled areas will result in

- using less detergent overall;
5. If the directions are for top loaders use ½ the called for amount;
 6. If you get an overload of suds - stop the machine and sprinkle some table salt or wait until the suds break down.. **DON'T WASH THEM DOWN THE STACK.**
 7. **If you get into trouble call for assistance.**

Just a word of caution check that your HO-6 or your HO-4 insurance policy, if you are a non-owner resident, has the rider providing coverage for sewer or waste water backups. The premium is usually only a small additional annual amount and will give a large amount of peace of mind.

Management is compiling a list of acceptable detergents as well as developing directions for their proper use. Look for it in the next *House Special*. In the meantime

remember **A LITTLE BIT GOES A LONG WAY AND MORE MAY COME BACK TO HAUNT YOU.**

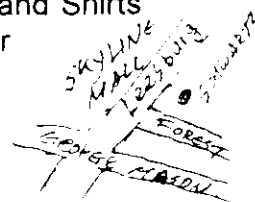
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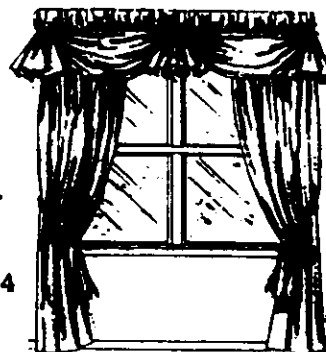
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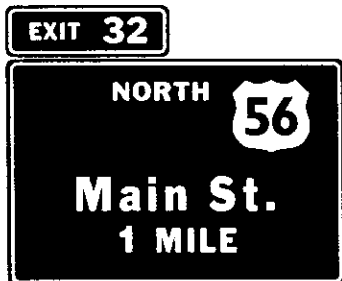
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ROAD SIGNS ON THE INTERSTATES

We have all driven on Interstate Highways and have observed the road signs feeling confident in our interpretation but there are certain subtleties which are not always apparent. For instance, you are preparing to get off the highway at Exit 32 and you approach the following sign, what should you do?



Prepare for an exit ramp coming up on the left. Your clue: the small panel indicating the exit number. It's on the top left of the larger sign for left-hand exits and the top right for right-hand exits.

When entering a construction zone, you come upon the barricade illustrated below. What is demonstrated?



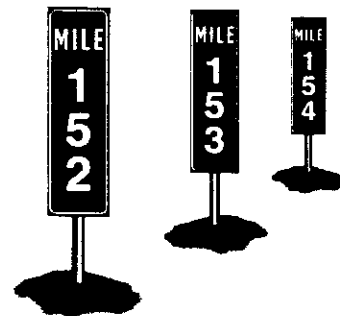
The diagonal stripes on construction barricades slant *down* toward the correct lane--in this case, the right.

If you are approaching a major city which

you desire to go around when you approach a sign such as the following, what should you do?



On the interstate system, any three-digit route that begins with an even number will travel in a circle or a semicircle around a metropolitan area and eventually rejoin the thoroughfare. Three digit routes beginning with an odd number are spurs that don't rejoin the interstate. Although the Washington area is not the best illustration, the principle would indicate taking 295 or 495.



In respect to mile-markers, all odd-numbered interstates and U.S. routes run north and south, and even-numbered routes run east and west. Mile-markers are numbered consecutively, beginning at the south (on north-south routes) and at the west (on east-west routes). So, ascending mile-markers on an odd-numbered route mean you are north-bound.

COMMUNITY REMINDERS

Mason District Farmers Market at Mason District Park on Thursdays 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM (ends October 26).

Mason District Park Day, September 23, from 10 AM to 4 PM, at Mason District Park on Columbia Pike in Annandale.

Annandale Chamber of Commerce Fall Festival and Parade on October 28 at 10 AM in Annandale.

Wednesday, 20 September, 7:00 PM
Mason District Council Candidates Forum
Mason District Government Center
6507 Columbia Pike

Candidates for Mason District Supervisor
(Penny Gross and Bill Baley)
Candidates for Chairman of the
Board of Supervisors
(Kate Hanley and Gary Jones)
Candidates for Commonwealth Attorney
(Bob Horan and David Karmol)

Monday, 16 October, 7:00 PM
School Board Election Coalition
Candidates Forum
Auditorium, Thomas Jefferson High School
6560 Braddock Road

Candidates for Mason District School Board
Member:
(Douglas Barylski, William Bott,
Virginia Shea, Alfred Ward)

Candidates for at-large School Board
Members (3 seats)
(Mychele Brickner, Isis Catro, Mark Emery,
Roland Finken, Robert Frye, Robert Gardner,
Vida Johnson, Yvonne McCall, Bennett
Rutledge, Issam Saliba, Lawrence Whitener)

Wednesday, 18 October, 7:00 PM
Mason District Council Candidates Forum
Mason District Government Center
6507 Columbia Pike

Candidates for the Virginia House of Delegates:
37th District (Bob Harris and Les Schoene)
38th District (Bob Hull and Leslie Gibson)
39th District (Vivian Watts and Tim Hugo)
47th District (Jim Almand, unopposed)

Candidates for the Virginia Senate:
30th District (Bob Calhoun and Patsy Ticer)
34th District (Jane Woods, unopposed)
35th District (Richard Saslaw and Paul
Brubaker)

Wednesday, November 1, 7:00 PM
School board Election Coalition
Candidates Forum

Auditorium, Community Cultural Center,
Annandale Campus of NOVA
4001 Wakefield Chapel Road

Candidates for at-large School Board Members:
(Names listed above)

September 4

LABOR DAY