



The

# House Special

VOLUME XVI

JANUARY 1996

NO. 1

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Gordon Frank, President**

### **In Memoriam**

It was certainly heartwarming to see so many of the Skyline House Community at the Memorial Service for Don Fenton on December 8th. Don's extraordinary service to our Association will long be remembered. He has made an indelible imprint on all who had the pleasure of working with him. Our Association will continue to benefit from the procedures that Don instituted. They will remain as a memorial to a dedicated individual who gave unstintingly of himself. Gone but never forgotten, may he rest in peace!

### **General Manager/Deputy General Manager**

Thank you all for written and oral comments during the time when the board was deciding upon a successor to Don Fenton. As most of you should know now, Don Perper, our former Deputy General Manager, has been appointed as our new General Manager. Don has been with the Association for almost three years. Prior to coming here, he held key positions in hotel management with Hyatt, Marriott and Holiday Inn. Don, a native Washingtonian, is a graduate of George Washington University. He lives with his wife Terri (also a musician) and their two children, Emily and Natalie, in Montgomery County.

Shortly after Don Fenton's death, many of you wrote to me or stopped me to tell me that you fully supported Don's appointment to General Manager. Your interest is greatly appreciated. I am sure the Board was influenced by that show of support. Don is recruiting a Deputy. The deputy will be required to live here at Skyline House. We hope to hire an experienced individual who is now or about to be a Professional Community Association Manager. If you know any qualified and interested candidates please encourage them to submit to Don a resume listing salary requirements.

### **Elections**

A notice of the forthcoming March 1996 election and annual meeting of the Association has already been posted. The terms of two of our Board members, Dolores Littles and Gabrielle Mallon, end in 1996. As Vice-President, Dolores has been a vigorous and involved leader. Gabrielle was elected to fill a one-year vacancy last year. She has done an excellent job. I encourage each to seek reelection. I also encourage others who wish to become Board members to offer their services as well. We can never have too many candidates!

### **Condominium Fee Increase**

Fewer of than I expected, stopped me to complain about the increase. I attribute that to your understanding that the Financial Management Committee and your Board are



# The House Special

Editor: **Law Henderson**

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

Copy Due Date: **20th of the month  
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.

PUBLISHED BY: SKYLINE HOUSE UNIT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION, INC., 3711 South George Mason Drive, Falls Church, VA 22041-3713, (703) 578-4855.

PRINTED BY: **Curry Printing and Copy Center  
Alexandria, VA**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	<b>Gordon Frank</b>
Vice President	<b>Dolores Littles</b>
Treasurer	<b>George Beams</b>
Secretary	<b>Helen Henderson</b>
Director	<b>Richard Noonan</b>
Director	<b>Barbara Michelman</b>
Director	<b>Gabrielle Mallon</b>

doing their utmost to provide the services that you want at an affordable cost. There are only three courses of action open. The first possibility is to increase condominium fees to reflect cost increases in salaries, contracts, utilities, maintenance and capital replacement reserves. The second possible course of action is to set inadequate fees that require us to cut services, maintenance, and underfund the capital reserves (a temporary benefit to be sure) or other ill-advised reductions in the quality of life here. A third course of action is to seek to lessen the impact of price increases by seeking gains in the productivity of our staff and contractors. I believe that quality, in the long run, costs less. It is my hope that in the coming months, we will be able to find operating economies by doing things quicker and better so that we might reduce or eliminate the annual condominium fee increase. Toward that end, any ideas that you might have for improving the quality of life while reducing Association expenses should be forwarded to Don Perper or me.

## Community Relations Committee

Resurrecting the Community Relations Committee has been a difficult task. We still seek members and a Chair to come forward. One idea that recently surfaced that deserves further exploration is the notion that there should be a joint community relations activity involving all the Skyline condominium associations because all the associations are affected by the decisions impacting the Baileys Crossroads area. If you have an interest in helping to re-establish community relations here at Skyline House, please contact Dick Noonan (203E), the Board Liaison to the Committee.

## Actions for 1996

During the November Board meeting I compiled a list of 12 actions or improvements that I hoped could be accomplished this coming year. Now there are 16. Please let me know if there is anything that should be added to the list. If any of these items strike your fancy and you would like to be involved, please join the appropriate

committee so that you can help make Skyline House an even better place to live.

1. Begin garage repairs
2. Evaluate garage expansion joint test; schedule completion or alternative
3. Schedule town meeting to discuss insurance, safety and unit maintenance
4. Schedule new member "mixer" to solicit committee members
5. Investigate feasibility of expanding the exercise room
6. Develop a plan to sub-meter water
7. Develop overall landscaping plan and execute CY1996 portion
8. Schedule board indoctrination meeting after

next election

9. Monitor improvements to pool appearance
10. Develop plan for resurfacing roof of garage (picnic area) and refurbishing or replacing picnic furniture
11. Decide on offer to review utility billings at no cost other than a share of savings, if any
12. Evaluate relocating garage "YIELD" signs
13. Develop a performance plan for General Manager and Deputy General Manager
14. Replace treadmill in exercise room
15. Refinish wood and replace worn out components in sauna
16. Organize joint association community relations working group

### SCHWARTZ TAILORING CO.

- Custom Made Suits and Shirts
- Restyling Fur/Leather
- Expert Alterations
- Reweaving

5122 Leesburg Pike  
Alexandria, VA 22302

Ph. 931-0458

*SKYLINE  
HALL  
1225-6113  
SCHWARTZ  
FOREST  
GEORGE HANCOCK*

SA-8 LAUNDRY  
DETERGENT  
Low Sudsing!  
Bio-Degradable!

AMVOX (202) 310-2818



CHARLEY ROBERTS

Authorized Distributor, A.D.A. No. 800247

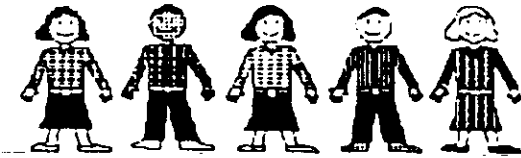
5119A Leesburg Pike, Box 260  
FAX (703) 845-0174 Falls Church, VA 22041

**VISIT THE  
CULMORE POST OFFICE**  
in its new and improved location

**HOURS**  
**MONDAY - FRIDAY**  
**8:30 A.M. - 7:30 P.M.**  
**SATURDAY**  
**8:30 A.M. - 1 P.M.**

**THE GOOD NEIGHBORS GROUP**

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



Skyline House Good Neighbors  
January 1996

Mary Walsh 379-8796  
Lou Burket 845-7724

The Good Neighbors Group has completed its third year of service to residents who needed temporary help due to illness, emergency or disability.

Each month two volunteer Good Neighbors are on call. Their names and telephone numbers are published in the *House Special* and their pictures with names and telephone numbers are displayed in the two mail lobbies.

Services have included errands for home-bound residents to get groceries, medicines, dry cleaning, newspapers and mail. Occasionally, a

resident has been transported to the doctor or hospital.

We are happy when residents are well and have no emergencies, but we hope that they know about the Good Neighbor program and will ask for assistance when needed.

Residents who have received services have let us know that they appreciated the help - through telephone calls and notes of thanks.

We will continue to publicize the Good Neighbors through the *House Special*, the Mail Lobby Posters and also through an occasional Good Neighbor Table in the lobby. The table is manned by Good Neighbors who will answer questions and provide brochures describing the program.

A new service consists of sending a Get Well message to ill residents with an offer of Good Neighbor assistance. If you know of a home-bound resident who might need and welcome such a message, please call one of the two "Good Neighbors of the Month".

There is a need for more volunteer Good Neighbors to carry on the program. If you would like to join the Good Neighbors to help make Skyline House a superior place to live, please call Irene Wolgamot or Geraldine Naveau.

**CLEOPATRA NAILS**

"Where Beauty Starts"

- Sculpture Nails
- Nail Tips
- Nail Coatings
- Silk Wrap Nails
- Manicure
- French Manicure
- Air Brush, Nail Design



- Pedicure-Spa.
- "Jacuzzi and / with Back Massage Style"
- European Facial
- Parafin Therapy Treatment
- Wax Hair Removal
- Body Massage (Men/Women)

"Come and Experience our Royal Treatment"  
"Centrally Ventilated Systems at Each Station"  
"We Serve Men and Women"

"Walk in  
Welcome"

**(703) 671-7727**

4672 King Street, Alexandria, Va. 22302  
(Summit Center - Next to T.G.I. Fridays - Skyline area)

"Gift  
Certificates"  
• So Heals Exposed  
• We Speak Arabic

**MOVING SALE**

**SELLING  
PAINTINGS, FURNITURE  
AND CARPETS**  
Everything in "like new" condition

Romeo and Susana Arnaboldi  
Skyline House - Unit 802W

Please Call (703) 379-1360

**MANAGEMENT REPORT****Donald Perper, General Manager**

On December 4, 1995, Skyline House suffered a great loss with the passing of Don Fenton. As a Board member and then as General Manager his achievements and contributions to this Association were many. Don placed a high value on excellence and there is no question that the fine condition of Skyline House may be attributed largely to Don Fenton's efforts. For me personally, he was a leader, a teacher and a close friend. I will always remember him!

Whereas the past several weeks have been a time of change and transition for the staff and me, we are most appreciative to all of you for your support and kindness. I am very happy to be the General Manager of Skyline House and look forward to continuing to serve all of you.

We are currently in the process of recruiting a new Deputy General Manager. It is our goal to have someone on staff in February.

**Vandalism**

I am sorry to report that the rate of vandalism in our Skyline House community is on the rise again. Within the past month or so we have experienced the following:

- elevator damage in which 45 pieces of fire telephone safety glass have been maliciously broken.
- 15 incidents of painted walls which have been drawn on and/or wall paper which has been torn or slashed.
- several areas of carpet damage where cigarettes have been extinguished into the carpet.

Management needs your help in stopping this senseless destruction. If you see anyone defacing or vandalizing our property, please notify the office or front desk immediately.

**Elections**

Is it time already? The answer is "yes." With just several months we need to get into the election mode and prepare for our Annual Meeting & Election. This year there are two Board members who's respective terms expire. They are Dolores Littles (1113W), Vice-President who is completing a three year term; and Gabrielle Mallon (1213W), Director who is completing the remaining year of a three year term due to the resignation of Sam Blumberg who moved away from Skyline House. Unit Owners wishing to run for the Board of Directors will need to get their nomination forms in by the dates below. Following is the 1996 Election Schedule:

**Nominations Open:**

Tuesday January 2, 1996

**Nominations Close:**

Friday February 23, 1996

**Unit Owner Mailout:**

Friday March 1, 1996

**Meet the Candidates Night**

Monday March 18, 1996 -7:30 PM WPR

**Annual Meeting & Election**

Tuesday March 26, 1996

7:15 PM in the Main Lobby

We are also in need volunteers to assist management and the Election Committee in a variety of election related to do's. Please contact Don Perper in the Management Office or Jack Herzig (310W) at 820-6605.

**Redecoration**

Well, just when we thought it was over, a couple of problems with the carpeting arose during the installation on the last two floors in the East Building. Bottom line, on the final lot of materials, the factory neglected to properly match the color of several of the carpet components. The problem is being addressed with the manufacturer and we should have this issue resolved soon.

**Staff Snippets**

- At the annual Employee Christmas Party the following employees were recognized for their service and dedication:

**Edna De Jesus**  
Employee of the Quarter  
January - March 1995

**Deborah Germosen**  
Employee of the Quarter  
April - June 1995

**Victoria de Panamena**  
Employee of the Quarter  
July - September 1995

**Robin Hebron**  
Employee of the Quarter  
October - December 1995

**Adua Stranere**  
Employee of the Year 1995

Congratulations and thanks to all of these individuals who have given so much to Skyline House!

**Vandalism**

I am sorry to report that the rate of vandalism in our Skyline House community is on the rise again. Within the past month or so we have experienced the following:

- elevator damage in which 45 pieces of fire telephone safety glass have been maliciously broken.
- 15 incidents of painted walls which have been drawn on and/or wall paper which has been torn or slashed.
- several areas of carpet damage where cigarettes have been extinguished into the carpet.

Management needs your help in stopping this senseless destruction. If you see anyone defacing or vandalizing our property, please notify the office or front desk immediately.

**UAA (undeliverable as addressed)**

On the radio lately, maybe you have heard the distinguished actor, George C. Scott speaking on behalf of the U.S. Postal Service concerning undeliverable mail and other such issues. Here at Skyline House, we too experience a sizeable amount of mail that is improperly addressed resulting in stray (loose) pieces of mail being left in the mail lobbies. To help redirect these lost paper souls to their rightful homes, management asks that you please bring misdirected or loose mail to the front desk. We will assist the Post Office in locating the correct address. Thanks for your help!!

**Christmas Tree Removal**

As another holiday season falls away, so do the needles on the Christmas trees. In keeping with tradition, the tree dumpster is now located behind the West Loading Dock. It will be in place through January 19th. All trees should be placed in this container and not left in loading docks, etc. If you need assistance please call the office during normal working hours to make arrangements. All trees should be covered while they are being taken to the dumpster.

**Structural Water Testing**

For a number of years, units located on the east end of the East Building and on the west side of the West Building have experienced significant water leaks during "high wind" driven rain or snow storms. In an effort to determine the reasons for this extreme water penetration the Association contracted Manta Consulting, Inc. and Architectural Testing, Inc. to survey these elevations and perform isolated water tests which simulate storm like conditions. After the results of the survey are available, management will bring to the PPOC the relevant data and make recommendations on how we might proceed in remedying the problem areas. Our "thanks" to those owners who allowed us to use their homes as a testing ground.

## ***IN UNIT SPECIALS***

- **Install a new Hot Water Heater (10 Year Warranty) for \$400.00 \*\* (Reg. \$475.00)**

**\*\* Excludes Shut Off Valve**

- **Heat Pump Tune-up and Cleaning for \$25.00 (Reg. \$35.00)**



**Please contact the Management Office (703) 578-4855, for appointment**

**RECREATION COMMITTEE****Tony DiSalvo, Chair**

The Committee met on December 6, in the West Card Room.

First of all, let me thank all the great residents of *Skyline House* along with their guests who attended the annual Holiday Party on December 9. They have indicated that it was a great success and a good time was had by all. Thanks to Carroll Thompson who was responsible for decorating the party room and for those who assisted him.

At our January meeting we will discuss future

activities in 1996. Why not join us?

If you are a new resident and have not attended the monthly TGIF party, make our annual Post Holiday Party in the East Party Room on Friday, January 5th your first. It will be held in the East Party Room at 6:30 PM. Come 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 refreshments.

TGIF	Fri	Jan 5	EPR	6:30 PM
RecCom	Wed	Jan 10	ECR	7:30 PM
TGIF	Fri	Feb 2	WPR	6:30 PM
RecCom	Wed	Feb 7	WCR	7:30 PM

(703) 931-4514  
931-4515

*Claude de Paris*  
Expert Hair Stylists

Located at  
Build America at Skyline

3823 C.S. George Mason Drive  
Bailey's Crossroads, Va 22041

**HOW TO START YOUR OWN  
HOME BUSINESS  
TRAVEL INDUSTRY**

Earn top income - FT/PT

No equipment or computer needed  
Must have good communication skills

**FULL TRAINING  
GREAT PERKS AND BENEFITS**

Call MIKE (703) 820-2227

# Electrolysis

*Permanent Hair Removal  
for Men and Women*



(703) 998-0003  
998-0004

Skyline Court Townhouses  
3608 Forest Drive, Alexandria, Virginia 22302

Are you interested in automatic deductions from your checking account for monthly condo fee payments? For more information contact Kathleen Bailey in the Accounting Office at (703) 998-0718 Monday thru Friday.



## Technology in the Mason District Schools

by Ruth Turner

Technology is in place throughout the Mason District. Several of our schools are becoming technology leaders in Fairfax County because of renovations and the Fairfax County Public Schools Modern Technology program. Glen Forest, Bailey's, Columbia, Weyanoke and Belvedere Elementary Schools and Poe Middle School have recently been or soon will be renovated. Renovation provided them with the opportunity to equip their schools with state-of-the-art instructional techniques. These schools are preparing to use computer networks to electronically link classrooms, the library, the office, other schools, and the Internet. The FCPS model technology program equipped at least 14 classrooms at Westlawn, Parklawn, Bailey's, Beech Tree and Bren Mar Park with classroom computers and provided staff training. This

program also provided new instructional technology and training for Poe and Glasgow Middle Schools. Holmes Middle School has a homework help line that allows students to call in for help after school hours. They are also making plans to connect all the computers in the school through a building-wide network. At the high school level, the Tri-school Project will electronically link Stuart and West Springfield to Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology. Students will be able to work jointly on projects at the three schools and have access to outside resources such as NASA data files. Stuart High School received a new fiber optic "backbone" wiring last spring to allow students to electronically access the library and all areas and staff of the school as well as communicate with students and staff in the Tri-School Project. Mason District schools continue to work toward the integration of curriculum and technology. Stop by and visit anytime. (Mason Memo)

## Grand Opening Special

5119-B Leesburg Pike, Virginia

In Skyline Mall

M. Mariam Caskin, DDS

(703)998-4244

Saturday appointments available

### Advanced Technologies Available:

Comprehensive Examinations • Oral Cancer Screenings • Intraoral Camera • Cosmetic Dentistry • Tooth Whitening • Bonding and Veneers • Crowns, Bridges, and Implants • Full and Partial Dentures • Root Canal Therapy • Extractions • Wisdom Teeth • Surgical and Nonsurgical Gum Care • Pediatric Dentistry • Nitrous Oxide, Conscious and Intravenous Sedation • Athletic Mouthguards • Nightguards.

### Affordable and Convenient:

Emergencies seen immediately • Early morning and late afternoon hours • Flexible payment plans • Delta Dental and Blue Cross provider • Most insurance accepted • VISA, MasterCard, and American Express accepted.

Membership: American Dental Society of Anesthesiology, Academy of General Dentistry, American Dental Association, American Association of Hospital Dentists, Northern Virginia Dental Association, Virginia Dental Association, Board Member of the American Cancer Society.

Dr. Mariam Caskin is fluent in English, French,

Arabic, Italian, and Spanish.

### New Patient Dental Special

\$44.00

(reg. \$118.00)

- State-of-the-Art Facility
- Consultation with Doctor
- Cavity Detecting X-Rays
- Cleaning and Exam

Offer good for every member of your family through 3/96 with this coupon only!