

# *The House Special*



*Volume 27 Issue 10*

*Skyline House*

*October 2007*



## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**President, Norman Baker**

The Board of Directors met on Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. The primary action item was a contract to perform minor repairs to the garage decks and subsequent application of a protective seal to those decks. For numerous reasons, the Board, with the concurrence of the consultant engineer, deferred both projects to Spring 2008 and approved a letter of intent to the selected contractor to lock in the bid. The deferral of the projects negates the notice in my September report warning those planning to be away in November 2007 to make arrangements to have their car moved during that time.

I devote the balance of my report to the following important announcement. If you have ideas or opinions about how best to landscape the circle in our front driveway this is your opportunity to participate in the process.

### **FRONT CIRCLE LANDSCAPE DESIGN PROJECT EAST & WEST VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Board Vice-President Schacknies has graciously volunteered, and the President has appointed her, to serve as Chair of an Ad Hoc Committee (AHC) of the Board. The AHC is directed to develop, with or without the assistance of a landscape design consultant, landscape designs for the front circle. The AHC is expected to recommend to the Board one or more designs, one of which will be approved to be implemented not later than Spring 2008. Volunteers are needed to serve on the AHC and participate in fulfilling its assignment. A meeting to identify those interested is scheduled for Monday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the West Card Room. All residents are welcome. From those that attend the meeting, or otherwise express interest, the President will appoint, on the Chair's advice, approximately eight (8) owners to serve on the AHC. Still, all interested residents may continue to attend subsequent AHC meetings and provide ideas and feedback. Ideally, AHC members will have some knowledge of, or background in, landscaping, gardening, plants, and/or design, architecture, fine arts. Still, a lack of those desirable qualifications should not discourage your involvement. If you want to participate, please attend the October 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. If you are unable to attend but would like to ensure your involvement, you can also contact Maria Elena Schacknies at [cultura@att.net](mailto:cultura@att.net) or 703-820-2239.



# **Management**

## **General Manager, Gusbey Silva**

### **East Building North & South Façade Restoration**

The work on tiers 12, 13, 14 and 15 has been completed. The work on tier 11 will be completed by October 5<sup>th</sup>. The remaining work on tiers 01 and 16 is estimated for completion by the middle of October.

The removal of the form boards installed above the windows during this fourth and last phase of this project started on September 17<sup>th</sup> and was completed at the end of the month. The restoration of the ceiling surface will start on October 2, 2007. The painting of the window sills and/or ceiling, if needed, should be scheduled on an individual basis at the Management Office.

The final completion date for Phase IV is estimated for the end of October 2007, weather permitting, not including the landscaping restoration.

### **Asphalt Resealing**

This project started on Monday, August 20<sup>th</sup> and was completed Friday, the 24<sup>th</sup>. A sign up sheet was placed at the Front Desk for residents who needed a parking space at the NVCC parking garage. A total of 32 residents took advantage of this and transportation to and from was provided by Tettie Moore, the Association's Assistant Chief Engineer.

### **Unit Window Panes Replacement Project**

The first windows were measured on August 9, 2007. As of the end of September a total of 37 unit owners have taken advantage of this project with a total of 121 glass panes ordered. The glass panes have been installed in 29 of these units. The last measurements were taken on September 21<sup>st</sup> these panes will be installed approximately during the third week of October. No additional residents had signed up for this project as of the 21<sup>st</sup>.

**If you plan to take advantage of this project, the last day to sign up is October 31, 2007. After that date, unit owners will need to contact the contractor directly.**

Please take into consideration that the replacement of the glass panes will only resolve the condensation issues but not any issues that may be related to wind and/or cold and heat infiltrating around the window frames.

### **Garage Concrete Repairs and Maintenance Project**

The garage concrete repairs needed, as recommended by the Consultant Engineer in their inspection report dated February 22, 2007, were postponed until Spring 2008. Notices will be posted at least two weeks in advance of the start date of this project regarding the removal of the cars parked in the garage. Parking will be secured at the Parking Garage of Northern Virginia Community College. Please look for more information in the February and March issues of the newsletter.

### **Unit Doors and Garage Painting Project**

This year the painting of the ceiling of the garage ramps which was suspended last December due to weather issues, will be completed followed by the painting of as many beams as possible, starting the first week of October 2007.

The painting of all residential unit doors is scheduled to start at the end of October in the West Building with a completion date prior to Thanksgiving and at the end of November in the East Building with a completion date prior to the Holidays. Notices have been posted for the West Building. Individual notices will be sent to each unit at least one week in advance.

### **Front Desk Package Delivery and Notification**

If you are expecting a package delivery it is important that you stop by the Front Desk on a daily basis to see if the package has arrived. Please take into consideration that immediate notification, using your outside phone line, is only done for next day carriers, perishables or faxes received. All other times the Front Desk Receptionist working during

the afternoon shift will make the calls using only the intercom line by not later than 9:00 p.m.. If you are not home and do not have an answering service/voice mail on your intercom line, the Front Desk will not be able to leave a message.

### **Recycling**

We have received several complaints from residents concerning the recycling material that is left on the floor by the containers instead of placing the materials inside the recycling bins. Please be considerate of your neighbors who do not want to come into the loading dock areas to find a very messy environment. Having to constantly pick up the recycling material from the floor is taking away from the Housekeeping staff's time and effort needed to inspect and maintain all other common areas as expected.



## **COVENANTS**

**Chair, Joe Livingston**

Greetings to recent new Unit Owners/Residents of Skyline House. We of the Covenants Committee welcome you and extend an invitation to join the Committee. We also take this opportunity to remind all other Unit Owners that there is a standing invitation to each of you to join the Committee.

The Committee last met on September 19, 2007 and considered a number of agenda items. Among them was a Management recommendation to revoke Rule 18 (c) (2) of the Association's Rules and Regulations. After discussion, the matter was tabled and Management was asked to obtain data to better support its recommendation and permit some analysis of the impact of changing the current policy and practices under the Rule.

At the Committee's meeting on September 19<sup>th</sup> and in our report to the Board of Directors at its September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting, we noted the presence of only a mere quorum at our meeting. That is not good. We can and must do better. We need more of a cross-section of the Association's membership on the Committee. That means you. In this connection, we make a special plea to the Unit Owners of the East Building. Your presence in the Committee is needed and welcome.

The next Covenants meeting is scheduled for November 21, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the West Card Room. You need not wait until then if you are interested in becoming a member. Feel free to call me at 703-931-6923



## **INFO FROM THE ENGINEER**

**Chief Engineer, Greg Grimm**

### **Unit Door Locks**

In the past, the Management Office has issued letters for unit owners to get additional or replacement keys for Medeco or Mul-T-Locks installed on their unit doors. Locksmiths are no longer accepting these letters. Locks now come with a plastic card that is the same size as a credit card. This card must be presented to the appropriate locksmith when requesting additional keys. (Check before you travel to a locksmith and make sure they are the appropriate dealer for your brand of lock)

If your entry door lock has been, or is, changed to one of these brands, the card you need will be inside the box in which your new lock was packaged. We (In-Unit Maintenance) always leave this box in the unit for the occupant. We never retain the cards. Make sure that you store the card in a safe place as it is the only way you can obtain additional keys. If you have lost your card and need additional keys, your lock will have to be changed.

## Power Problems

Recently we have had several power outages. These outages were caused by bad feeder cables belonging to Dominion Virginia Power. Dominion has replaced them and will be connecting the new cables. While they do so, the power will be off again for a short time.

During power outages, our two emergency generators supply power to stairwell lighting, garage entrance and exit doors, some corridor lighting, some garage lighting, the electronic key fob system, the two West garage elevators, the fire alarm system, some critical systems at the lobby, and one elevator in each resident tower.

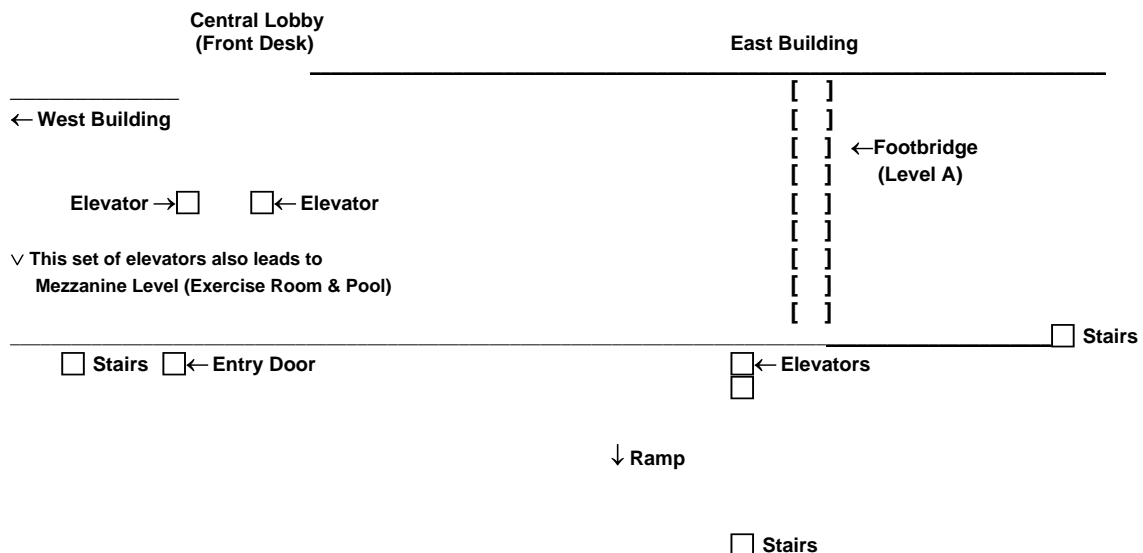
During the last power outage, the East generator failed to operate correctly and subsequently shutdown. The problem has been corrected. The systems have been tested and everything should operate normally during another power outage.

## Note from the Editor

During a power outage, only the two West garage elevators (those you take from the central lobby or the Ground level to access the pool area) can be used to access the garage or access the buildings from the garage. They are identified on the left side of the following map. Those who regularly use only the East garage elevators should learn the location of these two West garage elevators before you need them during a power outage.

### SKYLINE HOUSE GARAGE ELEVATORS

Four elevators service the garage: two (side-by-side) are located adjacent to the East Building and serve garage levels D, C, B, and A. Exit on Level A and enter the East Building via the clear-roofed footbridge. The other two garage elevators, designed to service the West Building, are located inside the Central Lobby. Enter the garage door at the opposite end of the garage from levels D, C, B, and A. You will see the elevators upon entry. Should any garage elevator be out of service, residents of both buildings can enter by using any of the working garage elevators or by using any of the staircases indicated in the diagram below. Climb the staircases to Level A, then enter the East Building or Central Lobby as described above.



## Guest Parking

Please, for the sake of our guests, reduce or better yet, cease your personal use of guest parking spaces. Ask yourself before parking in a guest space, “do I really need to take up this space even though it is for only a brief amount of time?” Promise yourself, if you forget to remove your car in the allowed amount of time, you will be understanding when you find your vehicle has been towed at your expense.

## NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

**George Mason Regional Library Book Sale** - The Friends of the George Mason Regional Library will host its ever-popular, semi-annual book sale at the library on October 11<sup>th</sup>, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.; October 12<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; October 13<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.; and October 14<sup>th</sup>, 12p.m. - 5 p.m. 7001 Little River Turnpike in Annandale.

**Farmers Market at Mason District Park** - There are five weeks left to join your friends and neighbors at the Farmer's Market on Thursday mornings from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. at Mason District Park, 6621 Columbia Pike in Annandale. The Farmer's Market will be open until November 1, and it offers vine-ripe produce, fresh baked goods, herb plants, and much more.



## **PHYSICAL PLANT & OPERATIONS**

**Acting Chair, Al Lambert**

The committee met on September 13, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. to review four pending projects with a goal to develop recommendations on each for the Board of Directors.

**1. Parking Garage Repair and Maintenance.** A past inspection identified maintenance and repairs to the garage decks which were subsequently approved by the Board of Directors (BOD). Hence, our task was to select one of three bidders to perform the repairs. The Committee along with input from visitors decided there was too much disparity between the bids. In addition, the low bidder (currently performing the façade repair) might be overextended by committing to finish the façade repairs on time and also to complete the garage repairs within a prescribed time period (approximately October 1 – November 15). The recommendation to the BOD was to have our consultant engineer provide an interpretation (judgment) on the gap between the two high bids and the one low bid. Questions and concerns included: Could there be value added from the high bids? Will accepting the low bid from the firm currently performing the façade repair and having them simultaneously attempt to complete garage repairs jeopardize successful completion of both projects in a timely fashion? Also, the firm (WDP) that performed the garage inspection should be contacted to determine whether maintenance repairs could be postponed without substantial deterioration to the garage. Doing so might necessitate soliciting bids again. There was a consensus that, should the low bidder be awarded the contract, the façade repairs be completed before undertaking the garage repairs. With the aforementioned information the BOD could make an informed decision on whether or not to award the contract and to whom, and also when the task should be begun/completed.

**2. Front Circle Landscape Design Project.** I would like to extend a “Thank You!” to those who participated in the PPOC recommendation of the paver brick color and design for the circular drive which were ultimately approved by the BOD. The task ahead is to identify a landscape design for the inner circle that conveys an impression of beauty, upscale living, and is esthetically pleasing to residents and visitors. The recommendation to the BOD was to appoint an Ad Hoc Committee of volunteers to develop landscape alternatives. **Now is the opportunity for you to get involved and participate.** Like the paver bricks around the circle the landscaping design will be in existence for many years and your contributions will influence the outcome.

**3. Reviewing the results of the Chloride Testing of Garage Decks.** Winter road salt treatment (Chloride Ions) is brought into the garage on vehicle tires, seeps into the concrete deck, and can cause corrosion to the embedded unbonded post-tensioning tendons (tension cables) supporting the decks. Testing was conducted to determine the extent of salt penetration in the concrete decks. Test results revealed chloride penetration on Levels A, B, and C at a depth of ¼" to 1" which exceeded the chloride ion limits when corrosion will occur. Initially this is not a cause for immediate concern since the tension cables are deeper than those depths. It does indicate measures have to be undertaken to preclude further salt absorption in the concrete floor. There is an additional safeguard against corrosion in that the tension cables are covered with corrosion resisting grease and enclosed in a plastic sheath. However, exposed cables (damaged sheaths) would be susceptible to corrosion. Concluding a discussion of the topic, the Committee recommendation to the BOD was to have Management contact the consulting engineer performing the test to propose a long-term preservation plan for the parking levels.

**4. Proposal to replace the West Mail Lobby Entrance Door due to cosmetic issues.** During discussions there was a consensus the cosmetic issue (exterior of the door has an antiquated make shift repair) could possibly be addressed by other options. The Committee recommended the BOD have Management investigate procurement of a door frame rather than an entirely new door system, and have in-house maintenance personnel perform an analysis to determine what, if any, improvements could be accomplished by them. During discussions there was a consensus the automatic opener/closer when working with the new electronic key fob system was keeping the door open too long creating a security issue and also the loss of heat/air conditioning within the mail room area. Additionally, the automatic opener/closer feature was being triggered by individuals standing too close to the door or just walking past the entrance thus activating the mechanism to open the door. Recommendation to the BOD was to request management propose corrective action to maintain security by minimizing time associated with opening/closing of the door and precluding inadvertent activation of the door opener.

My appreciation to everyone for allocating time to attend the meeting and for the exchange of ideas to further enhance our Association (home)! Thank You!

The next meeting of the PPOC is scheduled for Thursday, October 11<sup>th</sup>.



## **FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

**Chair, Wynfred Joshua**

The Financial Management Committee met on 17 September 2007. Total income for the month of August was \$301,168 with expenditures of \$201,365. Total income less expenditures amounted to \$99,803. The monthly Reserve Contribution was \$98,331, leaving net income before taxes of \$1,472. There were no issues of specific concern.

The FMC discussed at some length the potential contract for the Garage Repairs and Maintenance project. The FMC had received the names of 3 contractors with their requested amount for executing the project. One of the companies was Eastern Waterproofing, the current contractor doing the façade repairs. Presumably the bidders were faithfully responding to the specifications the consultant engineer had prepared. The following considerations determined the FMC's position:

- (1) The wide disparity in price submitted by the three bidders left the FMC wondering about differences in potential performance and quality. The bid amounts varied from \$73,580 to \$209,800.
- (2) Eastern Waterproofing's current equipment at Skyline House for the façade repairs and its availability of surplus workers, on the one hand, and the supposedly busy schedule of other bidders, on the other, did not credibly explain the sharp price disparity.
- (3) Except for the price, the FMC did not receive any comparative data about the bidders, such as reputation, capabilities, quality of performance, starting dates, etc.

(4) The difference in opinion among professional consultants regarding the requirement/desirability of sealing the garage decks reinforced the FMC's concern about the lack of data.

For all these reasons, the FMC declined to recommend a particular bidder to the Board. The FMC noted, however, that funds are available in the budget for the garage repairs: under account 10030 for \$150,000 and account 10031 for \$57,000.

Another issue raised at the FMC session was the utility of having a brief record prepared at the completion of each project listing key problems encountered and total cost of the project. For example, if such a record had been available, it would have been useful in the development of the specs for the circular driveway as well as the garage repairs.

Our final item was the approval of the draft 2008 Operating and Reserve Budget for submission to the Board. We thank those Board members who joined us at the sub-committee sessions for their attendance and advice.

Please note that our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> rather than for October 15<sup>th</sup>, the customary 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, in order to allow Management sufficient time to prepare the monthly financial statements. All interested residents are more than welcome.



## SECURITY, FIRE, & SAFETY

Chair, Robert De Mayo

**Fire/Smoke Detectors:** Deputy General Manager Haight reported on Fire Safety/Smoke Detector questions which have trickled in over the past months from residents. Her information is from direct contact with Captain Colbert of the Bailey's Crossroads Fire Department. He recommended that all units have at least one working smoke detector. Obviously, it may save your life and those of your loved one's by alerting you of a problem. Moreover, it is a great demonstration of your being a good citizen who is concerned for the common welfare and safety of our Skyline House building and the lives of your neighbors.

There was no special type of smoke detector recommended by the Fire Captain, nor suggestion that it be *hard-wired or a stand-alone* installed by resident owners or tenants. However, from discussion with several residents at our SF&SC meetings, it has become apparent that some residents found their hard-wired smoke detectors had (1) become inadvertently disconnected over the years from renovations/repainting of their condos and were inoperable; or (2) had never really been hooked up to electricity - amazing! Your SF&SC recommends, as we did in March of this year, that you test your detector yourself. If no alarm/sound is emitted, it means that it has no power (if hard-wired), or the battery is dead (if a stand-alone). Your Management Office will schedule a maintenance hook-up for a fee for the hard-wired type, and even has a small stock of hard-wired replacement smoke detectors available for a fee.

On stand-alone smoke detectors, research by your SF&SC indicates that there are two types: (1) *Ionization* smoke alarms which are generally more effective at detecting fast-flaming fires such as paper burning in a wastebasket or a grease fire in a kitchen; and, (2) *Photoelectric* smoke alarms which are generally more effective at detecting slow, smoldering fires (i.e., fires which smolder for hours before bursting into flame). Sources of these fires may include cigarettes burning in couches or bedding. It is up to you which type to choose; of course, one in the hallway leading to bedrooms is the best location, followed by the kitchen. Our personal SF&SC research in Home Depot has also indicated that the Manufacturer Warranty (i.e., a good gauge of how long the smoke detector sensor will last) on stand-alones varies with price: inexpensive ones for \$10 are warranted for up to 3-5 years, \$20-\$30 ones for 5-7-10 years, and \$40+ ones for 10-15-20 years. Our SF&SC "unscientific" opinion is that if the warranty is expired on your stand-alone smoke detector, or if it's 15-20 years old – get a new one and be safe!

**Pedestrian Safety:** The SF&SC made two recommendations to both the Board and the Management Office based upon Committee personal observation and evaluation. The first recommendation is to replace the YIELD sign located on the south side of the West Building driveway, which faces vehicles as they begin to exit onto South George Mason Drive or head to the lobby, with a more visible STOP sign. A smaller “*Caution: Stop Sign Ahead*” sign located 25’ around the circular drive warning vehicles of the approaching STOP is also recommended. The second recommendation is to designate – with paint – a pedestrian walkway on the roadway leading from the West Building Lobby to the Guest Parking area on the south side of the West Building. The walkway would be designated by the standard painted “traffic white” hash marking on the roadway extending 30’ from the curb. The rationale, discussed during at least three SF&SC meetings with attending residents, is to provide the utmost measure of safety to pedestrians (i.e., residents, guests, seniors and children) walking to and from the guest parking in that area and both the Lobby and West building entrances. Vehicular traffic must always yield to pedestrians on our Skyline House roadways and in the garage. Specifics will be drafted and furnished to the Management Office.

**Emergency Preparedness:** Deputy General Manager Haight recapped her research for information on Emergency Preparedness. Several very informative Web sites were furnished and the possibility of a future handout from the SF&SC to be published in January 2008 was briefly discussed. For now, some very relevant sites for residents to research themselves to prepare for a regional emergency are:

- For Homeland Security: <http://www.ready.gov/>
- For Virginia: <http://www.vaemergency.com/prepare/home/>
- For Fairfax County: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/#family>  
Under “Preparing Your Family” section, you will find “*Your Guide to Emergency Preparedness*” <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/emergency/emergencyprep.pdf>

Just as each March is our Skyline House “*Fire Safety Month*”, the SF&SC has designated each January our Skyline House “*Emergency Preparedness Month*”. The Committee welcomes and encourages any views, tips and suggestions from residents on how Skyline House should be prepared for any emergency. Suggestions may be included in the proposed handout in January. Feel free to e-mail your suggestions to me or Ms. Haight at the addresses in the directory in this newsletter.

**Skyline House Signage:** This past summer, the SF&SC walked our Skyline House grounds to closely assess the “excessive signage” issue raised by some residents. We believe that we have so many signs on our property that we are in “signage overload” and it is detracting from the esthetics of our property. Some general findings are: (1) there are 26 “Don’t Park by the Curb” signs, most on posts next to curbs that are already painted bright yellow; we will examine closely their placement with a goal to reduce the number. (2) There are 4 different types/colors/sizes of “Residents Parking” signs, some faded and in need of repair or replacement. (3) “Guest Parking” is painted on the street surface, on curbs, and we also have signs, some of which could be better placed/located. (4) When immediately entering our grounds from South George Mason Drive, a vehicle driver is faced with reading/absorbing instructions in 2-4 seconds from a small forest of 10 signs of different heights, sizes, colors, shapes, and information. We will recommend repositioning both the critical ones (i.e., for safety alerts) and non-critical signs (i.e., for information only) in a more pragmatic and eye-pleasing manner. A separate report is being prepared for Management follow-up. Since these signs pertain primarily to safety and security concerns, the SF&SC will retain Committee responsibility in the future for signage needs, standardization and placement, and collaboration with our Management.

**Security Force Progress:** I’m planning on meeting monthly with both our new security company manager and our Management Office to discuss any resident views or performance issues. Feel free to e-mail me if you have any concerns.

**The Committee’s next meeting will be Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup>. Please join us.**



## IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR SMOKERS

**Discarding cigarettes from your balcony is an extreme fire hazard and is against the law. At the very least, your cigarette can be easily blown to another balcony where it can cause serious damage to flooring and furniture. There is a high likelihood that it will cause a fire and place all residents at great risk.**

**If you are a smoker or have guests to your unit who are smokers, please ensure that cigarettes are not thrown from your balcony.**



## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

**Coordinator, Judith York**

Below are the Neighborhood Watch meetings scheduled for the remainder of 2007. All meetings are open to the public and are an excellent way to find out about the crime situation in our area and how Fairfax County police officers deal with providing security and tracking down suspects. Everyone is invited to attend these meetings and the related Holiday Party on December 4<sup>th</sup>. If you do attend the December 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, please remember to bring with you some snacks, finger foods or juices for the party. Neighborhood Watch meetings are at the Mason District Police Station, 6507 Columbia Pike (703-256-8035).

October 2	6:30pm	Neighborhood Watch Coordinators
	7:00pm	Neighborhood Watch Training
	7:30pm	Citizen Advisory Council (CAC)
November 6	7:30pm	Citizen Advisory Council (CAC)
December 4	6:30pm	Neighborhood Watch Coordinators
	7:00pm	Neighborhood Watch Training
	7:30pm	Citizen Advisory Council (CAC) <b>HOLIDAY PARTY</b>

Skyline Plaza had a Neighborhood Watch Training Session on September 20<sup>th</sup> and three Skyline House volunteers attended the session. The Fairfax County Police Department is holding a Fall Course of its Citizens Police Academy Program, but it is already full. Two Skyline House Neighborhood Watch volunteers will be attending the Spring 2008 course. This is an intensive program and consists of 10 weeks of classes covering topics such as: patrols, gangs, crime scenes, criminal investigations, internal affairs, and special operations. The classes are held on Thursday evenings from 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and the program is open to all individuals who live or work in Fairfax County. Due to the popularity of the program, participants are expected to attend at least eight of the ten weeks. If you are interested in attending future programs and have any questions, you may phone the Coordinator of the Citizens Police Academy on 703-280-0713 or e-mail on [CPA@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:CPA@fairfaxcounty.gov). Tracey Ryan is the Director of the Citizens Policy Academy and her direct e-mail address is [tracey.ryan@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:tracey.ryan@fairfaxcounty.gov).

In addition to the green "Neighborhood Watch" information binder I maintain at the front desk for all to review, there is also a black binder that contains information from Culmore Citizens Police Academy which I attended this past summer. Among other information, it provides an overview of the Fairfax County Police Department and gives the reader a better understanding of the daily challenges faced by our county officers as well as the operations of the Fairfax County Police Department.

If you are interested in becoming a Skyline House Neighborhood Watch Volunteer, please give me a call on 703-671-2267. Participants are asked to walk at least one hour a week and can choose the day or evening and the time. Volunteers walk in the East and West Buildings and some also walk the grounds, but this is entirely up to the individual. Volunteering is a great way to exercise, to do something for your community, and to meet other residents and Skyline House staff members. It is an easy way to help keep all residents safe and the buildings well maintained. Thank you, Judith York

# **GOOD NEIGHBORS**

Good Neighbors will assist residents in need of temporary help due to illness or emergency.

## **OCTOBER GOOD NEIGHBORS**

**ERNEST LOYOLA 703-671-0384**

**BELEN ELIOT 703-671-7045**

Good Neighbors always welcomes new members to assist those in need. If you are interested in serving your neighbors, please call Coordinator Toska Prather or Ernest Loyola. Their contact information is listed in the newsletter directory.



## **RECREATION**

**Chair, Betty Turner**

The Recreation Committee met as scheduled on Tuesday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. Nadyne McKelvey has resigned as Co-Chair and Betty Turner has agreed to serve as sole chair for the Committee.

Discussion centered on the upcoming TGIF and the Children's Halloween Party. Last year Tanya, from the Management Office, and Christine Dozier, Recreation Committee, coordinated this activity. This party will be held on Halloween, WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 31<sup>st</sup>, in the WEST PARTY ROOM. The time and other details are still being worked out between the Management Office and Recreation Committee. An announcement with detailed information will be available in early October.

Our committee is excited about the upcoming year and the community's interest in the various events being discussed. The Recreation Committee has grown this year and now has 7 members: Carroll Thompson, Christine Dozier, Donna Heflin, Janet Shipko, Gladys Manrique, Cindy Judy, and Betty Turner. During the last few months we have had at least one "first time attendee" at each TGIF. Each month's TGIF Social seems to be better than the last.

Next year we are planning to try to offer a wider variety of exciting activities such as a Sunday Brunch, a Twilight Wine and Cheese party, a Chili Cook-off, the VAMOOSE to NYC (Bus trip), Artisan Exhibits (residents display their work-no sales), a Mother/Daughter Banquet (Mothers' Day), Billiard Tournament, Movie Night, Children's Movie Time, Travel Log Evening, Spaghetti Dinner, Wine Tasting, Tribute to Veterans, Theatre Events (Kennedy Center, Washington National Opera, Army Band), Holiday Cookie Exchange, and more.

We appreciate the support and compliments we have received from the many residents who have attended recent functions and encourage ALL of you to become involved with whatever recreational activity you are excited about. Remember that this Committee exists for YOU. So, bring us your ideas.....you don't have to be on the Committee to share an idea.

Since July we have had various Committee members host the monthly TGIF Socials. We feel this method offers variety and encourages different people to offer their ideas for activities. We have decided to keep the TGIF Socials on the first Friday night of each month so mark your calendars now for the rest of 2007. Our next TGIF will be on Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, with Donna Heflin and Hanna Jones acting as hostesses. They are planning a Fall theme and it will, no doubt, be a very enjoyable evening. Janet Shipko has already agreed to be hostess for the November 2<sup>nd</sup> TGIF and then, December 8<sup>th</sup> (a Saturday night since this is the annual Holiday Party) will be hosted by Gladys Manrique. She will need a lot of helpers and it's not too early to let her know NOW that you are available to assist.

Recreation Committee meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month. **The next meeting is 7 p.m. Tuesday, October 16<sup>th</sup> in the West Card Room** and all residents are more than welcome to attend. The main topic for this meeting will be the annual HOLIDAY PARTY scheduled for Saturday, December 8<sup>th</sup>.

As already mentioned, **the next TGIF will be Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the West Party Room.** Come see for yourself what it's all about. Bring your own refreshments and some food to share and get acquainted with your neighbors.



## **October TGIF\* Gathering**

**\*Thank Goodness It's Friday**

**6:30 PM, Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup>  
West Party Room**

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE**



## **ANNUAL CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN PARTY**

**Wednesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Additional Details Will Be Posted On The East  
And West Lobby Bulletin Boards**



# SKYLINE HOUSE CALENDAR

## OCTOBER 2007

(WWW.SHUOA.ORG)



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b> Library Open 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. East Penthouse	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> TGIF 6:30 p.m. W. Party Room	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  Library Closed	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>  Security, Fire & Safety Comm. 7:00 p.m. W. Card Room	<b>11</b> Physical Plant & Operations Committee 7:00 p.m. W. Card Room	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Front Circle Landscape and Design Meeting 7:00 pm <u>W. Party Room</u> Library Open 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.	<b>16</b>  Recreation Committee 7:00 p.m. W. Card Room	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Financial Mgt. Comm. 7:00 pm <u>W. Card Room</u> Library Open 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  BOARD MEETING 7:00 p.m. W. Card Room	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Library Open 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. East Penthouse	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>  Children's Halloween Party			
<b>GOOD NEIGHBORS: ERNEST LOYOLA (703-671-0384) AND BELEN ELIOT (703-671-7045)</b>						

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THE HOUSE SPECIAL welcomes brief comments from its readers. Limit your letters to 250 words or less and include your name and unit number. The Association Board reserves the right to refuse incorrect or inappropriate statements. Information for THE HOUSE SPECIAL may be sent by e-mail to the Editor, dropped off at the Management office or the front desk attention EDITOR.

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