

The Downs

May 1989

The Newsletter of the Greenway Downs Citizens Association

Falls Church, Virginia

.....ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.....

Mark your calendars for June 5th, 7:30 p.m., at Devonshire School

We regret to announce that this meeting could well be our last. The topic of this meeting will be to determine whether or not Greenway Downs Citizens Association should continue to exist. There will be no pot luck dinner or awards ceremony as in past years.

Our Association has been in existence for over 45 years and has consistently been one of Northern Virginia's most active and successful civic associations. This success can be attributed to the fact that much of our community was built during a period before the County required certain minimum standards of the building contractors. Thirty years ago our community was without those improvements that newer communities take for granted: standard street signs, adequate street lights, storm drainage, county maintained parks, curbs and gutters. Thanks to our Association we now enjoy these improvements. In fact, our street lights exceed community norms, we have two well-used county-maintained parks and we are well on our way toward the completion of a multi-million dollar streets, curbs, gutters and storm drainage project.

In connection with this latter project, we can take pride in the fact that our Association, working in conjunction with former supervisor Jim Scott, was the prime mover in pushing the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to approve a County-wide community improvement project. This project is currently transforming many by-passed communities, such as ours, into significantly improved and more desirable places to live and raise a family.

We want to assure the newer members of our community that none of this would have happened without the efforts of a well-organized, active civic association. Unfortunately, the number of individuals who are willing to devote time and energy to our community projects has dwindled. Our problems, however, are not over. We continue to need an active neighborhood watch, gypsy moth eradication program and probable expansion of the parking permit program (see next article). Unforeseen problems will require being dealt with. County personnel will need to be contacted if community improvements fail to get the proper maintenance. Community sponsored cleaning and beautification projects, yard sales, fund raisers, childrens programs, holiday parties and The Downs all need to be organized and run.

None of these things will be possible in the future without adequate input and participation from our members. Please don't let our Association become a thing of the past. Come to the annual meeting and give us your views, run for office, volunteer for a project! It's your community.

PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Based on the comments of numerous residents of Greenway Downs, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved, on March 20, the creation of a residential parking district for Greenway Blvd. and West George Mason Rd. Because both streets are State roads and under the control of the State, the County cannot act unilaterally but must seek State cooperation on the matter. State approval is expected but the actual parking restrictions may take as much as 90 days from the date of the hearing.

The residents of these two streets sought this action because of the number of employees who work in the office building at 900 S. Washington Street (Lee Highway) who park on these two streets. They not only take available street parking but make a nuisance of themselves by discarding litter on the streets and adjoining properties, walking on flower beds, etc.

Much of the credit for the favorable action by the Board of Supervisors goes to Ahmed Selim. He helped organize the effort and gave well prepared testimony, backed by photographs, which vividly illustrated the parking problems on the two streets.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

If your life is being made miserable by any sort of disorderly conduct (rowdy kids, loud music or parties at night, drivers racing engines and burning rubber, etc) please call Officer Brown or Officer Clark at 354-5889. Discuss your problem with them and get your good neighbors in on the discussion. These police officers will advise and assist you in standing up for your rights.

Remember to contact Keith Brescia (536-7734) if you are interested in becoming active in our neighborhood watch program.