

The Downs

The Newsletter of the Greenway Downs Citizens Association

December, 1985

Falls Church, Virginia

HOLIDAY PARTY!!

Take time out to enjoy the season with your friends and neighbors. Bring a flashlight and meet us in the park near the basketball court at 6:30 pm on December 15th. You don't have to sing to wish people the season's best. Musical instruments welcome. Santa will come down to greet the children and then we will go around the neighborhood singing. If you know a person who would enjoy our visit or have any questions, please contact Mary Millsback at 532-5824.

UPDATE ON ROADS

By now residents on Cameron, W. George Mason and Woodlawn should have noticed the first steps in the Community Improvement Program on their streets. New utility poles have been installed and Virginia Power is presently moving electric wires. The telephone and cable TV lines will be moved in the upcoming weeks. Evidently there have been short interruptions of power during changeover of the electric wires but no long interruptions are anticipated.

The general contractor, R. L. Ryder Co., has given the county a December 2nd starting date for construction, weather permitting.

The contractor has indicated that trenching for the curb and gutter may occur first which may result in removal of shrubs, fences and walls. The water and gas lines may also have to be moved at this time, but no long periods of interruption are contemplated.

The contractor has designated project engineer Russ Dail as the contact person for homeowners who have questions concerning the construction. You can call 691-2527 to reach him. Our thanks to Herb Hicks of W. George Mason who volunteered to attend the pre-construction meeting to obtain the above information.

BOARD MEETINGS

The last meeting was November 6th. Minutes of the meeting are available to any member by calling Marilyn Williams, 534-3803.

The next meeting is at Karen Fioramonti's, 2843 W. George Mason, 7:30 pm, December 5th. Likely agenda items for this meeting include: (1) non-resident/commuter parking study on Greenway Blvd, (2) 1986 membership drive and neighborhood directory, (3) Community Improvement Program issues, (4) Neighborhood Watch issues, (5) Greenway Downs Park issues, (6) December 15th holiday party plans, (7) plans for future calendar events, (8) treasurer's report, (9) next edition of The Downs, (10) establishment of telephone committee, (11) dumping, (12) parking of commercial vehicles, (13) effect of county comprehensive plan changes on our neighborhood, (14) delegates to attend the County Federation of Civic Associations meetings, (15) new county handbooks and brochures available in Supervisor Scott's office. For further details call Carl Kannapel, President, at 534-8745.

WANT TO JOIN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM IN 1986?

Jim Scott and Patti Rounsevell will have a meeting at Devonshire School, December 18th at 8 pm, to help certain streets develop plans for new streets and sidewalks. These streets are Bolling, Cavalier, Greenway (between Custis and Chestnut), Marshall (between Custis and Chestnut), Monroe, and Postal Path. This could be your last opportunity to plan improvements for your streets! For further information call Randy Myers, 536-2739, or Carl Kannapel, 534-8745.

PARK ALERT!

Our park has recently become the object of unwanted vandalism. If anyone observes or becomes aware of such activity please contact Doug Rausch at 532-6214.

HALLOWEEN PARTY

Our neighborhood Halloween party was a big success. There were over 50 people there. We had two pinatas filled with candy, and games like the tennis ball toss into the clown and an apple-on-a-string-eating race. There was costume judging for the most original, cutest, funniest and scariest in three age groups. Thanks to our judges - Carl Kannapel, Richard Livingston, Mike Arm, Bill Quigley and Demetri Koulouritis. The grand prize, Murdok, the stuffed vulture, was won by Kim Albert. Thanks to all who helped, especially Rita Cainan, Patty and Jason Albert, Valerie Arm, Kathy Gilbert-Silva and Karen Kelley. Thanks, too, to everyone who came and participated in the fun!!

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

As mentioned earlier, the Park has recently been the subject of vandals. While the Neighborhood Watch patrols serve as a deterrent, we need active participation from all citizens, especially those within sight of the Park. If you see any suspicious or destructive acts occurring, no matter how minor, notify the police immediately (remember to tell them you are in Fairfax Co. Patrol Area 400). You may remain anonymous, though they do want a phone number so they can call back for more information if needed. If any operator gives you a hard time, report it to Officer Clark or Brown at the Crime Prevention Office, 354-5889.

Neighborhood Watch patrol volunteers are needed. This need not be a time-consuming activity. We are able to average about eight hours of patrol time per week with perhaps a third of the households participating - this works out to about two hours per person every couple of months. The patrol time could easily double if more people would get involved. For those who are not familiar with our Neighborhood Watch activities, we serve as additional eyes and ears for the police. This is done by our neighbors keeping a sharp lookout from their homes and periodic patrols who report suspicious activities to the police. The patrols are generally done by car with the patrollers using a CB radio to report to a base station who in turn notifies the police. In addition to patrollers, block captains for Summerfield, Cameron, Monroe and Custis Parkway, to help recruit and schedule the patrols, are needed. Anyone willing to volunteer for the Neighborhood Watch program please contact Keith Brescia, 536-7734.

SAY "HI"

I knew, the moment I saw our new mailman making his way through the bushes, that he had to be an Infantry Man. Little did I know that our new postman, John Bacca, is a recipient of the Congressional Medal of Honor. He served in Vietnam with the First Cavalry Division. We should all be proud to have him as our mailman. Next time you see him take some time to say hello. Michael Kentes, 2824 Greenway Blvd.