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FEBRUARY 1980

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#### NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH ON CRIME

On February 20, Officer Larry Clark of the Fairfax County Police Department will be our guest to further explain the Neighborhood-Watch-On-Crime Program sponsored by the Fairfax County Police Department.

The purpose of this program is to deter crime. It involves a citizen patrol with a CB-base or mobile station reporting suspicious events or people directly to the police. People who wish to serve on patrols must go through a training period to learn what they can or cannot do. They are not police officers and cannot act as such. Their purpose is to observe and report.

For training purposes there are meetings at the Mason District station, 6507 Columbia Pike at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month (691-2244). These meetings are open to any interested citizen. Complaints and problems can be brought up there.

Another aspect of the program is home security. Not many people can claim their homes are as secure as possible against a potential burglar. The police department can help here. Call your nearest station for a personal security assessment and make an appointment. Goods most likely to be stolen can be marked with your social security number. Window stickers and signs (at \$28) are available for neighborhoods who join this program.

Officer Clark promised to provide local crime statistics at the February 20 meeting. There's sure to be a few eye-openers.

#### MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1980

DEVONSHIRE SCHOOL CAFETERIA

8 P.M.

NEIGHBORHOOD-WATCH-ON-CRIME

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#### COMMUNITY PARK DEVELOPMENT

You may recall that back in June 1977 the voters of Fairfax County voted yes for a \$51.1 million park bond issue. Seventy thousand dollars of this was budgeted for the development of the 1.5 acre wooded tract at the end of Custis Parkway near Woodlawn Avenue, known locally as Squirrel Woods.

To involve the community in the planning process a questionnaire was mailed to all residents of Greenway Downs in spring 1979. With the information gathered from returned questionnaires, the Park Authority designed a preliminary master plan which was presented to the public at a December 10, 1979 public hearing at Graham Road School. Interested citizens had an opportunity to comment.

The plan included grading and  
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PARK (con'd from pg. 1)

landscaping, a sledding hill, a tot lot, trails, a picnic area and a foot bridge connecting Woodlawn Ave. and the wooded tract.

After the hearing, thirty days were allowed for written comments to be submitted either by citizens as individuals or collectively through their organizations. The Greenway Downs Citizens Association Executive Board met early in January to discuss this matter. They wrote to the Park Board recommending that the tract be cleaned up and landscaped, that the tot lot be placed in the lower area, that any remaining funds be used to construct a rustic wooden barrier around the green space between Greenway and Woodlawn. Also recommended were a few picnic tables in the vicinity of the tot lot along with litter baskets, a minimum of trails and lighting for the sled run (low priority). The Park Authority also received another letter containing a memorandum with fifteen signatures.

The plan was revised after considering citizen comments. Changes included gravel trails to wood chip, location of sled run to provide safe space between facilities, moving benches from beneath beach trees to play area, moving the picnic tables to the area along the stream and add-

ing a wooden parking barrier. All citizen concerns were responded to in a memo dated Feb. 1, 1980. The area will be left in its natural state as much as possible. Poison ivy will be cleared from trails. Lighting is not common in parks of this size. The plan was approved at the Park Board's Feb. 5 meeting.

Problems at the park include litter and vandalism.

## CURBS AND GUTTERS

If you have been walking or driving through Greenway Boulevard since Jan. 7th, you may have noticed engineers studying the street with their transits and maps. This is because it has been designated as one of the first streets in the county to receive funding for improvement such as: a new road, new sidewalks where needed; curbs and gutters installed with driveway entrances; and most needed of all, a storm drainage system.

Since Jan. 4th of 1979 many community meetings--which have all been announced and open to our residents--concerning improving the quality of the neighborhood in accordance with a program set forth by Fairfax County called "The Community Improvement Program" have been held at Devonshire Elementary School. This program is part of the Fairfax County Dept. of Housing and Community Development.

Greenway Boulevard had been selected because of its unique problems of drainage during rainstorms plus the willingness of participation in the program by 98% of its residents. This placed Greenway Boulevard in the Phase 1 category while Geo. Mason Dr. and Cameron Rd. are in Phase 2.

At a county level hearing by the Board of Supervisors on Oct. 29, the Board heard from four communities who all had similar problems. They granted recognition of their problems by: (1) accepting their Master Plans of improving their communities; (2) allowing final engineer study and design of the Phase 1 plan (1st street in each

(con'd on page 3)

## MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The Executive Board of the Greenway Downs Citizens Association has voted to conduct a membership drive. This is the first membership drive we have undertaken in at least three years.

Your Citizens Association has remained active in local affairs concerning our neighborhood during this time period, but, has eliminated some of our social functions (i.e. picnic, Christmas party, youth night) such that the existing funds in our treasury were sufficient until this year.

The Citizens Association has been instrumental in the last few years in keeping Devonshire School open, providing a community Health Fair, developing our neighborhood parks, disseminating information through the Downs newsletter, providing a neighborhood telephone directory and cooperating with the Board of Supervisors and the Department of Housing and Community Development in the construction of new storm sewers and street improvements.

The Greenway Downs Citizens Association is one of the oldest continuously active citizens associations in Fairfax County and has been an effective voice in county government on issues affecting our community. The Citizens Association realizes that not everyone in our community can actively participate in the Citizens Association, but, if you support what the Association is trying to do, we urge you to show your support by becoming a dues-paying member.

The membership dues have not been affected by inflation and remain at \$2.50 per family and \$1.00 per single person. The dues are used to pay for our membership in the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations, to pay for the printing of announcements and our Downs newsletter, and to support such causes as the Falls Church High School Band and the Boy Scouts.

The Executive Board has proposed that a new telephone directory for the community be printed and distributed to the citizens. It is noted that the intent of the telephone directory is for the private use of the citizens in our community and not as a solicitation tool for businesses. You may wish not to have your name or

phone number listed in the telephone directory or may wish to have only your name listed in the telephone directory, but, it is important that you indicate your preference.

We are conducting the membership drive as much as possible by mail so please fill out the form on page 4 indicating whether you wish to become a member or not and also indicating your preference for listing in the telephone directory. Please fill out the form even if you don't care to join and no one will call on you further about membership.

Please mail or deliver the form to:  
MEMBERSHIP DRIVE  
2825 WEST GEORGE MASON DRIVE  
FALLS CHURCH, VA. 22042

COMING EVENTS:

- Spring Picnic Dinner
- Election of Officers
- Park Clean-Up

CURBS (con'd from page 2)

community to start construction); (3) seeking additional funds in the mid-year budget review on Jan. 14th to pay for construction of all four communities' Phase 1 construction plus hopefully obtaining more funds to help perpetuate the Community Improvement Program thru future phases.

After approval of the engineers' study and design by the Fairfax County Environmental Management and State Highway Dept., construction on Greenway will probably begin in June.

It is hoped that other streets in the community will have the same type of improvements in the very near future. The whole community would certainly benefit from them.

NEW OFFICERS

We welcome two new officers:  
Vice President--MICHAEL ARM and  
Member of Board of Directors--  
MARIANNE GICK, both of Cameron Rd.

GREENWAY DOWNS CITIZENS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Do you wish to become a member? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish to have your name listed in our telephone directory?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

Do you wish to have your phone number listed?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE FILL IN AT LEAST YOUR ADDRESS SO YOU WON'T BE CONTACTED AGAIN.

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Wife's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ \$2.50 (family member) ( ) \$1.00 (single member) ( )