

VOL. XIV, NO. 1

SEPTEMBER 1975

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Randy Myers, President

Some people would say it is fundamental that an association such as ours have concrete issues and projects as we begin our new year. It is unfortunate that our first such issue, the proposed Devonshire School closing, is of such urgent and critical nature to our community as a whole.

It is obvious how the proposed school closing would affect those of us in the community with children of elementary school age. Parents would be forced to expose children, who would normally walk to school, to the increased safety hazards involved in busing causing an increase in county busing at a time when, due to monetary and energy considerations, the county has reduced the number of existing buses. The question of the children's safety evidently has been overlooked and apparently outweighed by the alleged savings to county taxpayers. Safety is something I find difficult to equate with dollars and cents.

Suppose, just for the moment, that the county realized the alleged savings would be applied to the remaining schools in our area the Devonshire students would attend to improve the quality of the facilities and the quality of instruction.

I'll leave the answer to your imagination.

It may not be so obvious as to how the proposed school closing would affect residents of our community without children

SEPTEMBER MEETING

DATE Tuesday, September 23

TIME 8:00 P.M.

PLACE Devonshire School Cafetorium
Graham Road and Lee Highway

PROGRAM "SCHOOLS"

of elementary school age. Think for a moment of the first question a prospective home-buyer with children looking at homes in our area might ask. Where is the nearest elementary school? Well, it's not going to be within walking distance so why not buy anywhere else in the county where the children can walk to school. It seems homeowners in our community already suffer from the inadequacies of our streets, sidewalks, and drainage. Do we need yet another disadvantage when selling our homes?

This brings us to our first meeting on Tuesday, September 23, where we plan to have a speaker from the Fairfax Education Association speak on their attitudes concerning school closings and other school budget related topics. A short question and answer session and a business meeting will follow. Plan on being there.

VOTE ON NOVEMBER 4

NEW OFFICERS

President--Randy Myers Vice President--George Schaar Recording Sec'y--Ruth Grogan Corresponding Sec'y-Lois Owens Treasurer-Elouisa Stokes Editor, DOWNS--Karen Mariner Board of Directors Ben Blankenship Earl Hall Bernie Lucas Monica Mordin Henry Roderiquez Bernard Stull Federation Delegates Francis Fisher Elly Keys Karen Mariner Alternate--Willard Scott Committee Chairpersons Membership-Willard Scott Services for Swap--Mary Millsback

IMPORTANT DATES

September 18 -- Fairfax Federation of Citizens Meeting September 23--General Meeting; Speaker from Fairfax Education Association October 6--Executive Board Meeting 2825 W. George Mason Road October 8--Deadline for October DOWNS October 21 -- Tentative Oct. Gen. Meeting

DO YOU JUST BELONG?

Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed, or are you quite content that your name is on the list?

Do you take an active part, to help the work along, or are you quite well satisfied to only just belong?

Do you ever take a stand for things you think are right, or leave the work to just a few and talk instead of fight?

Think it over, member, you know what's right and wrong, Are you an active member, or do you just belong?

THE DOWNS

VOL. XIV. NO. 1 SEPTEMBER 1975

Published by the Greenway Downs Citizens Association as a community service.

Editor Mrs. Karen Mariner 536-1991

Typing and

Printing . . Jerry & Hester Nettles 450-5236

VOTER REGISTRATION

Saturday, October 4, 1975 is the last chance to be registered or to declare a change of address before the General Election on November 4, 1975. Registration books close October 4 by state law. You may register to vote at any Fairfax County Library on Thursdays through October 2 from 1:00 to 9:00 P.M., Saturdays through September 27 from 1:00 to 5:00 P.M., Saturday, October 4 (last day) from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays through October 1 from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Association is in need of volunteers to act as chairpersons for our various committees. If you are interested in helping in any capacity or have a committee in mind you would like to serve on, please feel free to call Randy Myers, at 536-2739. In his capacity as President of the Association, he looks forward to working with all active members this coming year and hopes to see many more members become active.

DEVONSHIRE CALENDAR

October 13--Columbus Day--NO SCHOOL October 14--PTA-Back to School Night at 8:00 P.M. October 16--Parent Lunch-Mrs. Copps Class

October 27--Veterans Day--NO SCHOOL

SCHOOL CLOSING STUDY

Throughout the summer the Administration has been sorting through the many qyestions put to them concerning the possible closing of Devonshire in June. If you are a parent with children currently enrolled you will soon receive a document with answers to these questions. Extra copies will be available for interested community members. A community meeting will be held at Devonshire shortly after you receive the written document. You may present further questions and opinions at this time. I urge you to read through the document carefully and present any concerns which you may have either at the meeting or to Mr. Joe King, Area II Office, Key Intermediate School, in Springfield.

The Area II Staff will present their final decision on the feasibility of closing Devonshire to the School Board at its regular meeting, November 13.

GENERAL CLEAN-UP

A general clean-up around the creek and surrounding park areas is scheduled for 10:00 A.M. Saturday, October 75. Community members are invited to participate in this effort. We ask everyone to bring a plastic trash bag and meet at the basketball court (corner of Greenway Boulevard and Custis Parkway) at the above mentioned time. Refreshments will be served afterwards. Help keep your community clean!

SERVICES FOR SWAP

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Do you have a job to do that you don't feel up to? How about swapping trades! Trade your skills--plumber, electrician, TV repair, music lessons, photography, upholstery, hand crafts, yard work, etc. Help your neighbors and have them help you in return. To sign up for trading talents, call 532-5824.

G.D.C.A. ANNUAL PICNIC

The annual picnic co-chaired by Mary Millsback and Sandy Mann was a great success. Thanks for a great job, ladies. Picnic winners were as follows:

Parade Costume:

1st - Jeff Stucker

2nd - Kim Janssen

Theresa Millsback

3rd - Clayton Mariner

Parade Bike:

1st - Allen Lewis

2nd - Celeste St. Hilare

3rd - Robert Karas

Baking Contest:

1st - Brenda Scott

2nd - Carol Phelps

Baby Contest:

King - Michael Cook

Queen - Stephanie Marquardt

Princes - Daniel Millsback Clayton Mariner

Father of the Year Award-Essay Contest:
Maurita Mariner

Grand Prize:

Shirley Janssen

Other Prize Winners:

Joe Goodwin, Eleanor Hills, Linda Benjamin, Dan Wilson, Pauline Wilson, Richard and Nancy Karas.

GIRL SCOUT NEWS

The Greenway Downs Girl Scout program is already busy. If you are in first through sixth grade and interested in scouting, please call Mrs. Stokes at 533-1392. We are in a desperate need for a Brownie Co-leader who could attend only every other Monday afternoon. There are 10 Brownies who can't meet unless you volunteer! The Junior Girl Scout Troop needs a leader and Co-leader for its 18 girls. There is much good from scouting and it is sad that these girls will miss out for lack of interest adults.

SENIOR CITIZENS

You are cordially invited to have lunch daily in any participating Fair-fax County School. Devenshire extends this arm of friendship to you. Lunches are served for 75¢ between 11:15 and 12:30. Monthly menus may be obtained from the school office or by calling the office, 573-4590.

DISCOUNTS TO ELDERLY

Fairfax County Residents aged 60 and older are now eligible for discounts of between 10 and 40 percent from about 250 businesses in the county. Bright green decals saying, "Community Concern for Senior Citizens," will identify participating merchants. Also, a catalog will be mailed to those who sign up for the program, which is being run by the county's Department of Recreation and Community Services. To be eligible, senior citizens must obtain photo identification cards at specified community centers, libraries and churches where senior citizens clubs meet. For information, call 691-2185.

OPERATION IDENTIFICATION

Two electric engravers are now available for circulation to residents of our community. They are used to place a unique mark on all personal property to help in identification should it become necessary. Your Association strongly urges everyone to join in this program called "Operation Identification." For more information, or to have your name placed on the list, call 534-3197.

ADVERTISE IN THE DOWNS!

Only \$1.00 per column inch!

GREENWAY DOWNS COMMUNITY EXCLUSIVE

Television Service at REASONABLE RATES. Full-color capability, including picture tube replacements, chassis re-manufacturing, tuner rebuilding, precision color circuit alignments and color antenna installations (rotors available). Certified Statement of charges upon request (required for insurance-covered repairs): Call Charlie Mariner (phone 536-1991) for rates, service, estimates, or discussion of your electronic needs for home or the office.

Plumbing and Heating. Sales-Service-Installation. Complete Sewer Service. Call: 0.W. (Bill) Smith at 430-1700.

SERVICE FOR HIRE

We will list babysitting and odd jobs and services. Call in your name and phone number to the Editor.

BABY SITTERS

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Leslie Klinger, age 15 5	33-8051
Debbie Rodgers, age 12 5	33-2835
Ellen Schaffstall, age 15 5	33-0432
Tammy Streets, age 14 5	32-0479
Kim Streets, age 16 5	
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The GDCA annual membership drive will be on again sometime after the 15th of November. JOIN UP!
