



of GREENWAY DOWNS CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

VOL. VI, No. 3

March 1968

ABOUT OUR SPEAKER

Our speaker this month is **GERALD FRANK**, a Probation Officer for Fairfax County Juvenile Court who will speak to us on the work of the Probation Officer in Fairfax County. Mr. Frank was born and raised in South Hampton, Long Island, New York. After graduation from high school in 1957, he was employed as a truck driver until he joined the U.S. Marines in October 1958. During his four years in the Marines, he married.

In February 1963, Mr. Frank joined the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare in Washington, D. C., as a Statistical Clerk. At this time he also entered The George Washington University and, working his way through, graduated in February 1967 with a degree in psychology and a minor in sociology. As a registered social worker in Virginia, he joined the Fairfax County Juvenile Court last March. He hopes to start work on a Master's degree in social work this September.

ARE YOU CONCERNED?

Mr. Frank has been invited to talk to your Association because of its concern over the mounting crime problem in Fairfax County. According to an article in *The Evening Star*, February 27, robberies have risen 100% since January 1, 1967; and vandalism and burglaries

MARCH MEETING

DATE: Tuesday, March 26

TIME: 8:00 p.m.

PLACE: Devonshire School Cafetorium
Graham Road and Lee Highway

SPEAKER: **Mr. Gerald Frank**
Probation Officer
Fairfax County Juvenile Court

PROGRAM: The Probation Office in
Fairfax County

BUSINESS MEETING REFRESHMENTS

are also on the rise. Since July, \$68,000 worth of vandalism has been done to the public schools. This money is coming from our tax dollars and is something **every** citizen should be concerned about. In addition, 10 houses a day are being broken into in Fairfax County. And these are only the ones reported to police. Are you concerned enough about your community, your own home and family, to help fight crime?

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Irene T. Smith, *President*

One day recently I was taking care of one of my grandsons and he asked to be taken for a walk. Since it was a beautiful day, I was easily persuaded. I also saw it as an opportunity to see what was being accomplished on the storm drainage work along Custis Parkway. So, off we set! I must say those of you who live adjacent to this work certainly have my sympathies for the mess and inconvenience you must endure while this work progresses. We can only hope that the contractor will not be unduly delayed by the weather so it will be completed in the couple of months I am told it will take.

Well, after walking along Custis through the mud, we then proceeded up Bolling Road, across Cavalier Trail, and back down Cameron Road. I want to report that the condition of the yards and homes on Bolling Road were all in very neat, clean, and well-kept condition. I couldn't help but think it couldn't have looked better if you had been expecting someone to come by on a pre-arranged inspection tour such as the Association had a few years ago. I truly was filled with pride and joy at the way all the homes looked. In fact, I didn't even see a stray bike or tricycle outside unless a child was using it. Of course, there were no unsightly vehicles or appliances of any sort in evidence either.

You residents on Bolling Road are to be commended on the fine care you are taking of your property. You know this is the way to protect property values and thus your investment. Keep up the good work.

I must add that Cameron Road looked very good, too, but not quite as perfect as Bolling. I only wish my own street, this Association's

namesake, looked as well cared for. By and large, however, most property owners are taking very good care of their homes. At our meeting in February, Mr. Butler, who spoke to us on the purchase and financing of a home, told us that on the average the homes in this area appreciate \$500 a year. Well-kept and improved homes would increase more and those not cared for would not be as much. He said that the scarcity of lots in the area causes the land alone to go up in value each year.

The one thing that distressed me as we walked was the fact that the creek seems to be used by a number of individuals as a trash dump. It was the most unsightly part of the community I saw. And it could look so beautiful if enough of us were interested in keeping it so. For instance, I saw two old, broken-down sleds abandoned in it, a stack of newspapers only 2 days old, numerous soft drink bottles and cans, and torn pieces of plasterboard. Actually there wasn't very much refuse that humans weren't responsible for, like branches, logs, and leaves. As I walked along I couldn't help but envision how pretty it could be developed with some rhododendrons, azaleas, laurel, etc. planted here and there to give it a "natural" look, and possibly little foot bridges up at Woodlawn, Monroe, and George Mason. If any of you think this is possible, why don't you come to our general meetings and speak up. Maybe some of our scout groups would like to consider such a community beautification project. How about it?

We had good attendance at our February meeting, about 30 members came out. Your executive board members appreciate your loyal help and support. After all, we of ourselves can accomplish very little without your help. We understand that all of you have many demands on your time and you can't always manage to make the meetings, however, the very least you can do to support your Association is to join us by paying your \$2.50 membership dues. You will notice elsewhere in this issue that our annual membership drive will be in April. Please be courteous and thoughtful when one of your willing and hard-working neighbors comes to call on you to receive your membership dues. It certainly makes their job much more pleasant

THE DOWNS

VOL. VI, No. 3 March 1968

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

Editor Mrs. Elouisa Stokes
533-1392

Assistant Mrs. Mary Reich
533-1844

to do and compensates somewhat for all the time they so unselfishly give for us all if you greet them cordially when they call on you.

SPRING AND MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

A chain is only as strong as its weakest link. In Greenway Downs it is possible for every member of the community to participate in the affairs of the entire community. No matter what our opinions are, we owe our children, both those here at home and those who are fighting for a democratic way of life in Vietnam, our strong support. It would seem to me that a showing of that support begins, not in Washington, but right here—here in Greenway Downs by being a strong link in the chain of government and supporting our neighbors in the Association.

March 30th begins the annual Greenway Downs Citizens Association membership drive. And just what does this mean to you?

First of all—What is your Association? As I said before, fellow neighbors who are organizing the total effort toward a better community, making Greenway Downs a better place in which to live.

Secondly—What does your Association do? We sponsor Scouting, we send three delegates to the Fairfax Federation of Civic Associations, and we participate actively in major affairs which affect our community. For an example, your Civic Association President spoke on behalf of the Association at the change of zoning hearing regarding the property adjacent to Devonshire School. As you know we supported the PTA stand and were pleased with the rejection of the proposed rezoning.

The yearly dues, \$2.50, enable the Association to meet, publish *The Downs*, support the Scouts, and have a Christmas celebration, a June picnic and a voice in the Federation of Civic Association. Each member, in addition, is given a 10% discount of purchases at the **Fairfax Lumber Co., 7634 Lee Highway**, and at the **Liggon Paint Store, 154 Hillwood Avenue**. Since most of us are "do-it-yourselfers," this discount more than covers the cost of membership in the Association. This year the \$2.50 family dues will also entitle each family to a

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

APRIL 29	Monday
PICNIC	JUNE 8 Saturday

Directory of those who live in Greenway Downs, similar to the one published three years ago.

During the first three weeks in April, someone from your street will be calling on you and inviting you to join the Association. Why not participate?

—A. Shepherd, Membership Drive Chairman

ALL OPEN BURNING PROHIBITED

According to Fairfax County's newly-adopted Air Pollution Ordinance, open burning is now prohibited in areas such as Greenway Downs where leaf collections and regular trash collections are provided. The trash collectors will take any trash that is boxed at the curb on trash days except for building materials, large limbs, and appliances. These will be picked up by a special truck if you call 273-3455. Small limbs must be boxed or tied in bundles in order to be taken. This may seem like a lot of work to you, but please think of those who have emphysema or asthma. The smoke and other pollutants put into the air by burning make the simple fact of breathing very difficult. It is true that some people have had to leave their homes for a day or evening because it was so difficult to breathe here. **Please uphold the law.**

Special exceptions are allowed by permit only. For information, phone 273-2050, 354-0903, or 534-1264. (Reference: Supervisors Agenda item, January 16, 1968.)

LOCAL BANDS RATED "SUPERIOR"

The Falls Church High School Concert Band (Jim Lunsford directing) and the J.C. Whittier Concert Band (Tom Murray directing) were both rated "Superior" for performances at the 1968 Annual Music Festival held on March 9 at Langley High School.

SCOUT NEWS

Girl Scout Cookies—The girls of Troop 601 have one more week to go on their annual cookie sale. Cookies are 50¢ a box and butter flavor, oatmeal, assorted sandwich, peanut butter, and mint are available until March 31. If you haven't been contacted or would like more cookies, please call Mrs. Steidel, 532-3265.

The Troop is going to be very busy in the next month. An ice skating party at the Village House is planned for late March. The girls have completed work on the Toymaker badge and have begun work on the Outdoor Cook badge in preparation for a camping trip at Holland Acres on April 26-28. This badge will mean a lot of eating outside in the next few months. Don't get too fat, girls.

Many thanks to the girls of Troop 601, also, for delivering *The Downs* this month. We appreciate your help.

A Night in Hawaii—Brownie Troop 575 participated in a Father-Daughter Banquet Friday, March 15 at J. G. Whittier School. The Troop chose to use Hawaiian table decorations consisting of sponge printed placemats, palm trees, shells, leis for the fathers, and flowers for the girls. Several of the fathers acted as judges for the tables.

A Hawaiian dessert, tropical fruit in a coconut half, was served. The coconuts were donated by Senator Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii who greeted several representatives of the Troop in his office.

Songs and games were led by three Senior Scouts under the direction of Mrs. Francis Parsons, a trainer for the Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital. And as the sun sinks in the west, the smell of coconuts and the sound of grass skirts continues to remind the girls and their fathers of a delightful Hawaiian evening.

Cub Scout Paper Drive Tomorrow—The semi-annual paper drive conducted by Cub Pack 677 will be Saturday, March 23. The Scouts will pick up newspapers, magazines, catalogs, etc. They request that the papers be put in cartons or large paper bags at the curb to make it easier for the boys to handle them. This is the Cubs' main moneymaking project and they appreciate any help you can give.

NEWS OF INTEREST

We would like very much to hear of interesting news of those in our community. As a special, we plan to run an article soon on your sons and daughters who are graduating from college this June. Please call your Editor, 533-1392, and give her the details. We are also interested in other accomplishments you or your children have made and don't forget to let us report the arrival of a little one to your family circle. We don't enjoy reporting the loss of loved ones but know it is necessary to do so and do appreciate being informed.

PTA MEETING—The Devonshire School PTA meeting on April 9, 1968, will be a "festival" type meeting. The "Book Fair," "SCA," "Safety Patrol," and "Cake Sale" will be part of the activities. Join us in having a pleasant evening. This meeting will start at 7:30 p.m.

MOVIE!!—Hoppity Goes to Town (color)

Where: Devonshire School

When: March 23, 1968 at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Who: Anyone — any age

Price: 50¢

Length: 1½ hours

Refreshments: Drinks 5¢ — Popcorn 10¢

You all come — ya hea' now!

OPEN HOUSING HEARING—The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has set April 30 as the date for an open housing hearing. The hearing will begin at 7:30 p.m. at Woodson High School, 9525 Main Street, Fairfax City. All who feel strongly either way on this issue should attend.

BENEFIT DANCE FOR FCHS BAND—A Benefit Dance for Falls Church High's Band Uniform Fund will be held on Friday, March 29, from 8 to 11:30, in the new cafeteria of the school on Marc Drive.

The program for band parents and their adult friends will be presented by student members of the Concert and Marching Bands, and will feature "The Big Band Sound" for dancing, plus specialty entertainment. Refreshments will be furnished. For information and tickets, please contact band students or Mr. Ralph Brescia, 2847 Greenway Boulevard, 532-6431.