

TYSONS WOODS

TYLINE

P.O. Box 267 • DUNN LORING, VIRGINIA • 22027

May 1998

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dave Stauth, President Area 7	204-1122
Julie Gardiner, Vice President Area 1	207-9066
Renata Wade, Secretary Area 4 Email: Landscp@erols.com	698-8787
Dave Knapp, Treasurer Area 2	876-0725
VACANT (R. Wade, Acting) Area 3	
VACANT (D. Stauth, Acting) Area 6	
Jack Anderson Area 5	560-5682
Penny Firth Member at Large	876-0725
Maggie Stauth Member at Large	204-1122

Your line to news and information on the Tysons Woods Neighborhood

Notes from the Board

The TWCA Board held its spring kick-off meeting in April and set the calendar of events through the first part of the summer season. Then Mother Nature promptly rained, and rained, and rained on our plans. As we prepared for publication, the calendar had to be re-scheduled. You will find a Clip Calendar just the right size to hang on the refrigerator or on top of that pesky bill stack. For those who called to check on the date of our Annual Yard Sale event, we apologize the date was moved. Hopefully, it will give you more time to dig up treasures to put in your driveway! So mark you calendars and meet your neighbors in the Park!

For our first event, TWCA has requested and received approval to add plants to Tysons Woods Park. We planted along the gravel culvert to discourage kids from playing there while improving the “nature”-al appearance. We also received approval to transplant existing ferns from wooded areas into the section behind the picnic tables near the Williams Hill boundary. They will cover that spot where grass doesn’t grow and stays mushy after the rain. We will welcome summer with the Annual Spring Fling Cook-Out sponsored by TWCA.

The TWCA Board reviewed its current funds and made our usual donation to Marshall H.S. All Night Party for prom night, and sent funds to our faithful firefighters and paramedics at Dunn Loring Vol. Fire Dept. The only event that hasn’t been scheduled at this time is the Neighborhood Trash Pick-Up. As you know, we have been able to offer this service to Association members two years in a row. However, this event takes a large chunk of our funds; last year’s pick-up cost \$1500 for three roll-off dumpsters and truck rental to make curb-side pick-ups. The TWCA Board and several volunteers provided the labor. As a result of these costs and the need for more volunteers, the Board has deferred its decision on when a trash pick-up will occur. We are considering hosting this event in the fall by having dumpsters delivered in the neighborhood for one afternoon with drop-off self service for members. It’s also been two years since we last published the neighborhood directory. We hope to publish a new version later in the summer.

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NOTES FROM THE BOARD (con't.)

To be part of the big picture TWCA renewed its membership in Providence District Council; the organization made up of homeowner and civic groups throughout the voting district. This helps to keep us informed of events throughout the area that effect our community. TWCA joined many other groups recently in expressing our concerns to Supervisor Gerry Connolly and Chairman Kate Hanley at the Board of Supervisors about the proposed merger of the Dept. of Recreation and the Park Authority under the County Executive. The initial concern was this merger was not being given full public review and comment during the recent budget process. As a result of this activism, the Board of Supervisors has maintained the governing power of the Park Authority and its appointment of an independent Executive. The Supervisors also delayed final decision on the consolidation of functions between Rec and Parks to allow for analysis and recommendation by government staff and subsequent review by interested community groups. The Board is scheduled to make these decisions in November.

Last, but certainly not least, if you would like to participate in events planning or make comments to the TWCA Board, please join us at the next meeting on Wed., June 10 at 8:00 p.m. Our hosts are Dave and Maggie Stauth at 8543 Electric Ave.]

Down The Block

Dig Up Those Treasures! . . . TWCA will sponsor the Annual Yard Sale event on Sat., May 30; rain date on Sun. An Ad will be placed in the Washington Post and handbills on the streets leading to the neighborhood. Published hours will be 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Remember When . . . TWCA did the New Year's Luminary? We haven't published an issue since that event, and we would like to take you back to that chilly evening to thank all the volunteers who set up candles and bags at the entrances to our neighborhood on New Year's Eve. (And picked them up the next day.) A special thanks goes once again to our Luminary Coordinator Extraordinaire, Cathy Chatham, and the nimble fingers of the Ladies at Tysons Towers for pre-folding all the bags for us. It was a wonderful way to send bright wishes to all our friends and neighbors as we welcomed the New Year.

New Neighbors: Lew, Elaine and Lily Komarow have joined our merry band on Malraux Dr. next to the Park entrance. Little Lily was recently seen curling her bare toes and flashing a smile as bright as sunshine on one of our rare sunny Saturday afternoons. Welcome to our neighborhood – we're glad you came along!

On The Way... Dave and Maggie Stauth are expecting their second child in September. Congrats!
]



**Tysons
Woods**

CLIP CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Annual Yard Sale

Sat., May 30; Rain date Sun.

TWCA Meeting

Wed., June 10

Spring Fling Cook-Out

Sat., June 13; Rain date Sun.



Political Party

Providence District

Land Use Issues: The Providence District Task Force has just completed its review and recommendations of over 40 proposed changes to the Comprehensive Plan for various properties in the Providence District. Proposed changes in our immediate area included adding up to 47 single family and town homes on Horseshoe Dr., located in Ashlawn Plantation behind the Taco Bell commercial area on Old Courthouse Rd. This proposal would have increased the pressure on the intersection at 123 and Old Courthouse, and raised concerns of Ashlawn that more cut-through traffic would be added to their community. The task force recommended against this proposal. Another proposal is for the consolidation and development of lots on Amanda Place behind the Korean Church at Cedar Ln. and Park St. While the task force recommended these properties be allowed to develop at higher density, it also recommended against cut-through streets to the adjoining community.

Some of the most lively review discussions came over the property known as the Kena Temple on Rt. 50 near Prosperity Ave., and Virginia Center at the Vienna Metrorail. The task force recommended significantly lower residential development be allowed than desired by the Temple in its effort to sell the property. The VA Center developers are attempting to increase commercial space beyond the approved equivalent of 2 office hi-rise buildings to include additional space for a hotel. The Task Force recommended against this proposal. All proposals will be considered next by the Planning Commission, followed by the Board of Supervisors. Historically, the residential nominations that succeed will be built by the next Plan review in three years. The purpose of TWCA's participation was to monitor the proposed building and attempt to maintain minimal impact to the traffic surrounding our community and other effects to our quality of life.

The next land use issue coming up is a proposed "mini-plan" creation for the Merrifield area. This is a booming area that some have speculated could be the next Tysons in terms of development. Supervisor Connolly has been asked by the Greater Merrifield Business Association (GMBA) to convene a special task force to help develop a general use plan for the area. TWCA attended a presentation by GMBA at a Providence District Council meeting earlier this spring. GMBA is promoting a business/citizen task force to define a vision for this area. Many planned industrial areas along Gallows Rd. have been rezoned and developed with retail, office and residential uses and, of course, the soon-to-be renamed "Dunn Loring – Merrifield" rail station. Supervisor Connolly has initiated a Special Study to authorize revising the Merrifield Plan. Some of the items this Study will look at are recreational amenities, walkways linking the Merrifield areas, and architectural designs. As with all such growth in this County, transportation issues are a major concern. TWCA's land use representative Renata Wade, along with other representatives in the surrounding area, has been invited by Supervisor Connolly's office to attend a "vision exercise" as part of this Study. It is possible a task force could be convened by November. We'll keep you posted in future newsletters on the progress of this topic.]

Fairfax County

As mentioned in Notes From The Board, TWCA was monitoring the budget process with particular attention to items related to the Park Authority and its operations. At the District Council level a lot of focus has been given to the issue of increasing gang violence in the County. The approved County Budget, with matching funds from the federal government, provides for additional police with some being strictly dedicated to gang activity. While we are fortunate to live in a community where we feel insulated from such problems, the news reminds us on a regular basis

that youth violence can happen even where its least expected. The police dept. has published a checklist for identifying symptoms of gang activity to help the public assess risk factors at a community level. The TWCA Board reviewed this list and is pleased and relieved to report – not in our neighborhood. However, it should also serve as a reminder to think about where our kids go outside our homes and what they are involved in. For most of us it comes as no surprise that after school activities, such as sports, music and theatre can be one of the best tools in keeping kids on the right path.

Road Rage – Who isn't getting sick and tired of this during our daily commute? The County has devised a new program to help the average driver take a poke back at the dangerous and stupid actions of these drivers. Fairfax County Police will accept calls on a non-emergency line – **Do not call 911 for this.** If you see dangerous driving, get the license number of the car and general description of the driver (gender, hair). Then call **691-2131** with the details of when, where, what the driver did, and your name with phone number. Your identity is strictly for the police in case they have questions; it will not be released. The police will identify the owner of the vehicle and send a letter about what was observed. The letter states, for legal reasons, that the owner may not have been the driver but should be aware of this problem. The police hope this will act as a deterrent to future actions by drivers once they have been notified.

Log On! . . . Web sites offering news and information on County and District activities are growing by leaps and bounds. The County web page is very polished with easy to follow "click" access to literally hundreds of information resources. If you would like to know how to contact an agency or learn about services – this is the place! You can send email to Supervisor Gerry Connolly, Chairman Kate Hanley, and our School Board Representative Ernestine Heastie. Try your skill and see if you can find the web sites for the Providence District Council and the Federation of Citizens Associations (we're a member of both).

Fairfax County:

<http://www.co.fairfax.va.us>

Fairfax County Park Authority:

<http://www.co.fairfax.va.us/parks/>

Classifieds

For Sale: Custom-made drapes for bay window and patio door: Royal blue w/ small floral print; Excellent condition. Traverse rods included. \$150 o.b.o.; Vermont Castings Defiant Encore high efficiency wood stove. \$700 (cost new \$1345). Brass Fireplace insert w/ blower. \$100 Call the Warmbrods 698-9653]

THE MALRAUX CHRONICLES

Olfactory Gamboling

By Penny Firth



Every evening, before dinner, we have a little ritual in our house. “Wash your hands!” I call, shepherding the little one and browbeating the bigger one away from their gambols. As I’m putting the finishing touches on the Poached Salmon Chateau Flambé they parade into the kitchen and hold up their little mitts. One sniff and I can tell: Did they use soap? Did they use water? Sometimes they get sent back for a re-wash, sometimes not. But when we all sit down and hold hands, all the hands have passed my sniff test.

Just because I’m not paranoid doesn’t mean bacteria are not everywhere. Many of these ubiquitous microbes are beneficial to humans. That’s fine. It’s the sordid pathogenic ones that concern me. A very few of these germs on unwashed hands can easily end up inside. This is unpleasant for the child in the diaper, havoc for the parent.

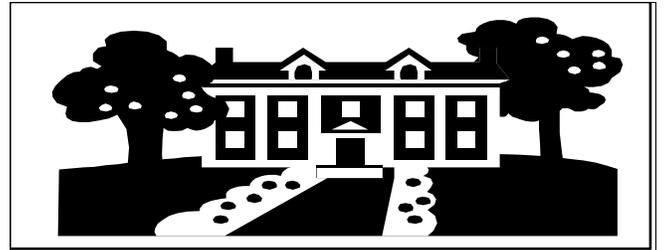
I tell the kids to soap up with warm water and then count very slowly to ten while scrubbing. This works fine for the 5-year old, but the 2-year old sometimes gets his numbers mixed up: “one, two, three, five, six four... um... MOMMY!!!” Sometimes the temptation to play in the water is just too great. You need to beware of either escalating splashing and yelling sounds (often preceding another “MOMMY!!!”), or an eerie silence. We have found that this is the sound water makes while it saturates the hallway carpet.

I have just dished the Consommé Olga into the Pocahontas cups and am stirring the Champagne-Saffron Vinaigrette for the Asparagus Salad when my sweetheart staggers into the kitchen with a giggling child attached at each shin. Big laughing leeches where his feet should be. He has overseen the final stages of the cleansing, a commando raid that rids us of germs that resist even powerful antibiotics. Now the olfactory police force is called to duty.

Did you know that a person with a healthy sense of smell can detect as many as 10,000 different odors? Play-doh, garlic grass, a piece of cake. Did you know that women tend to have a keener sense of smell than men do? That your sense of smell is heightened when you’re hungry? That you have a dominant nostril? Do you care? Now just try to relax while I construct the rest of my fantasy meal

I have just nestled the Pate de Foie Gras in a bed of fresh watercress and poured two milks and two glorious glasses of 1995 Mascat de Beaumes De Venise. The children are neatly tidied, brushed, and quiet as large dolls. My acutely sensitive dominant nostril goes to work: “Sniff.”

Light the candles, arrange the deck chairs, another dinner is launched.]



House Beautiful

as of May 8, 1998

2236 Chestertown Dr; colonial, 4 bdrm, 2.5 ba, 2 fireplaces, 1 car garage, listed in March for \$229,900.

8529 Minerva Ct; colonial, 5 bdrm, 3.5 ba, 2 fireplaces, 2 car garage, finished basement, pool, listed in April for \$285,000.

8523 Connirae Ln; colonial, 4 bdrm, 2.5 ba, 2 fireplaces, 1 car carport, listed in March for \$229,900, currently under contract.

2225 Malraux Dr; colonial, 4 bdrm, 3.5 ba, 2 fireplaces, 2 car garage, finished basement, listed in May for \$274,900.

8534 Electric Ave; colonial, 5 bdrm, 3.5 ba, 2 fireplaces, 2 car garage, finished basement, listed in May for \$249,900.

2241 Richelieu Dr; split foyer, 3 bdrm, 3 ba, 1 fireplace, 2 car garage, listed in May for \$239,900.

Happy Summer !!

