



TYSONS WOODS

TYLINE

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

April 2000

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Your line to news and information on the Tysons Woods Neighborhood

Notes from the Board

Greetings to all our old and new neighbors! The Civic Association is warming up along with the Spring season. We met recently to review our finances and plan some community activities. Although it has been awhile since we published a newsletter, the TWCA Board members have been working on a number of issues of interest to the community. The newsletter articles present information including Electric Ave. traffic problems, improvements in the Park, and surrounding area land items.

Our neighborhood is generally a quiet oasis from the hectic pace of the metropolitan area around us. You might wonder why we need a civic association, or even *“What have you done for me lately?”* Over the past several years the officers of the TWCA Board have had oversight in the replacement of all TW sidewalks, all TW streets resurfaced, worked with the developer of Williams Hill on placement of some homes to maintain buffering for adjoining TW homes and the park, promoting a high standard of maintenance in the community park, social events for neighbors and kids, and formed relationships with our elected officials and other communities to help us stay informed on issues and programs of concern or interest to our community. Many of these improvements couldn't be done without the help of the **Providence District Supervisor, Gerry Connolly**, and existing County programs. However, these solutions don't come knocking on their own. You have to research the issues, present your interest to the proper authorities and participate to get these types of accomplishments. The Tysons Woods Civic Association is meant to be a mechanism for our community to be heard. This means your feedback and volunteer spirit are critical. A number of you have pitched in with issues and activities in the past. We encourage you to get to know your TWCA Board members, and join with us. Several slots on the Board are vacant and could use your help. New participation always brings new insights! We hope your support will continue in the coming year as we go along with our efforts around town.

Look for our upcoming events --- We hope to see you there!

Inside this issue . . .

Notes from the Board

Down the Block

Around Town

Down The Block

Annual Yard Sale . . . Yes, its time! The first event of the season. Rummage through that basement, attack the attic and put your treasures in the driveway **Saturday, April 29th** (Sunday as the rain date). TWCA provides newspaper advertisement and signs pointing to the community to bring in the yard shoppers.

Traffic Meeting. . . Doug Hansen, FC Dept. of Transportation, presents "Traffic Calming" measures currently offered to neighborhoods. Please join us Monday, **May 1st at 7:30 pm.** Hosted at the home of Jim & Renata Wade, 2231 Richelieu Dr., at the corner of Richelieu & Chestertown.

Spring Fling. . . Our annual picnic in the park is scheduled **Sunday, May 7th**. Based upon our finances, the Board decided to make our traditional picnic a pot-luck supper in the Tysons Wood Park. TWCA will provide drinks and paper supplies. We will publish a reminder later in the month and include a meal suggestions. The park entrance is located on the cul-de-sac on Malraux, which is the end nearest the intersection of Malraux and Richelieu.



Tysons Woods Civic Association

CLIP CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Annual Yard Sale

Sat., April 29; Rain date Sun.

Traffic Issues Meeting

Monday, May 1; 7:30 pm

Picnic in the Park

Sunday., May 7

New Neighbors? . . . We want to be sure to welcome new friends to the community. If you have a new neighbor, please let us know, and be sure to invite them to the upcoming Picnic in the Park.

Special Achievement . . . *Greg Deusterhaus* was honored at an induction ceremony for his achievements in becoming an Eagle Scout. You may recall Greg's special project for Eagle badge was organizing and implementing the curb re-painting of all the house numbers in our community. Greg is now happily pursuing his college education. **Congratulations & Thanks, Greg, from all your neighbors!**

House Beautiful. . . As in past years, Dave Stauth will work with a local real estate agent to provide the House Beautiful neighborhood home listings in future issues.

Around Town

Fairfax County

New Trash Procedures: Effective April 1, the County implements a new requirement all residents using curb-side trash pick-up. All recyclables **including lawn debris** must be in metal or plastic bins, brown Kraft paper bags, or **CLEAR plastic bags**. This is to make the most efficient use of the County's recycling programs and helps to ensure organic material doesn't overload our landfills. Most hardware stores now offer clear bags.

Traffic Issues: The FC Board of Supervisors has recently approved the implementation of a new law allowing neighborhoods who meet a series of requirements to implement a \$200 fine for speeding in 25 mph zones. We presented this issue to the community in late 1996 when Richmond first passed the law. Unfortunately, upon review by the County Attorney, the law as written presented a number of implementation problems. Almost 3 years later those problems have been addressed and the County can now begin this program. We have continued to monitor this issue and listen to the comments of the community. As a result we have submitted a letter to Supervisor Gerry Connolly expresses our interest in participating in this program. This is only the first step. The community will now be monitored and surveyed to determine if we meet all the requirements. In an effort to provide comprehensive information of this program and requirements slowing traffic on Electric Ave., we have contacted the Dept. of Transportation requesting a presentation. Mr. Doug Hansen of DOT will present the various options in the Traffic Calming program (including \$200 fine, multi-way stop, speed humps, raised cross-walk) and its requirements on Mon., May 1. This will be a very important meeting. **Please join us for this information and comment session.**

NEIGHBORHOOD KNOWLEDGE: Fri., 2/25/00. Electric Ave. between Chestertown and Woodford. The Smart Sign (counting cars and displaying speed) counted **9,337** car trips from 6am-11pm. **207 of those cars were 10 mph or more over the speed limit.**



Fairfax County (con't.)

In-fill Development. . . The County has been conducting a series of citizen forums to receive comments on re-developing residential properties. As the amount of undeveloped land within the county gives way to construction, a new trend has surfaced of purchasing established properties, knocking down existing buildings and replacing them with more or larger structures. We have recently seen an example of this at the corner of Electric and Cedar where several lots were purchased, consolidated, the single family houses destroyed and townhouses installed. (And there are more lots with this potential in the same area.) Listening to comments at the recent form at Luther Jackson, it is event citizens are increasingly concerned with the impact this has within and next to their neighborhoods. Some of the problems discussed included placing townhouses next to single family homes, need for sufficient green space buffers (trees) between old and new communities, unwanted increases in traffic congestion, drainage problems during and after construction, and the need more public transit systems; i.e., more buses, adding shuttles, expanding rail. Stay tuned as we continue to follow this issue.

Fairfax County Park Authority 50th Anniversary. . . The Park Authority wants everyone to help them celebrate this very special milestone. In honor of their anniversary, the Park Authority has designed a 50 cent admission days at these Recreation Centers:

Wakefield	April 16
Oak Marr	June 25
Providence	September 4

ALL Rec Centers will offer special drop-in classes for 50-cent admission on the following dates:

May 13 – 19
July 29 – August 4.

For more information call 703.324.8662 or 703.321.7081.

Providence District

Tyson's Wood Community Park. . . TWCA contacted **Joanne Malone**, Park Authority Board – Providence District, to request an addition to our neighborhood park. Joanne has joined us in the park many times since its official opening and knows how much we love it. Based upon her efforts with our request, the Park Authority agreed to install another swing set for larger children. **Thank you Joanne!** Not to mention, those volunteer clean-up days to show we care are really paying off!

Providence District (con't.)

Merrifield Task Force . . . Things are really beginning to heat up. You may recall from previous newsletters that Merrifield has been designated as a Revitalization District. The Task Force was convened by **Supervisor Connolly** with the mission to make recommendations to FC Board of Supervisors on how to redesign and redevelop Merrifield with an initial vision of the community including a “town center” concept. This process is now 1-1/2 years along. The group consisting of businessmen and citizens is reviewing land usage designated as Merrifield Center which includes from Fairfax Hospital/Fairview Park down to Prosperity Ave., running northward to Dunn Loring/Merrifield Metro Station. Generally speaking revitalization requires increasing the density of population in order to provide incentive to re-develop. The task force is considering allowing buildings from 115-180 feet in the areas closest to the Metro, many of which would be a mixture of office and residential, some labeled as hotel. Moving toward the core, buildings would range from 75-115 feet, again, for office and residential adding retail and support services. Buildings at the farthest boundaries from Metro are proposed at 50-75 feet as a combination of retail and business. Many factors including traffic, public services and features best suited to the surrounding communities have prompted concerns about the density of this proposal. Supervisor Connolly recently attended a session as visiting chairman of the task force and presented a number of comments he had received from members and other citizens in this regard. The group is currently reviewing the draft proposal with revisions anticipated. **Renata Wade** represents TWCA on the task force. Please contact her for further information or to make comments.

Road Construction. . . funding recently passed in Richmond for regional road improvements will be seen close to home. Within the next 4 years the original “6-year plan” is to be put back on track for the widening of Lee Hwy. \$13 million has been provided to make some improvements in the Lee Hwy./Gallows Rd. intersection and widen Lee Hwy to 6 lanes from Gallows to Cedar. Unfortunately, this isn't enough to fix all the problems at the Lee/Gallows intersection. (The Merrifield Task Force will also be looking at traffic solutions for suggestions the Board of Supervisors may make to Va. Dept. of Transportation.)

