

truuro trails



AUGUST 1992

THA/TCC OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN AND HEADS OF ACTIVITIES

Board of Directors

President.....	Janice Armstrong.....	978-0429
Vice President.....	Art Wells.....	323-7367
Secretary.....	Don Johnson.....	978-2641
Directors.....	Keith Thomas.....	425-5770
	Mike McKinley.....	323-0098
Treasurer.....	Jim Tew.....	(leave message) 978-0859
Financial Director.....	Keith Thomas.....	425-5770
Maintenance and Repair		
Advisor.....	Don Johnson.....	978-2641
Record Keeper/Membership.....	Donna Alexander... (leave message)	978-0859
Clubhouse Reservations/ Rental.....	John Brennan.....	978-2622
Architectural Control Cmte...	Ralph Kennedy.....	978-1177
Nominating Committee.....	Alannah Coshow.....	425-6459
Neighborhood Watch.....	Dave Barton.....	978-2580
TCC Committee.....	Janice Armstrong.....	978-0429
Social Committee.....	Sue and Ron Porter.....	764-9677
Park Committee.....	Ron Olesch.....	425-9617
Publicity Committee.....	Bob and Valerie Sutter.....	425-3765
Truro Trails.....	David Jones.....	978-3857
NEAT.....	Jim Bergstrom.....	978-6541
Gypsy Moth Committee.....	Catherine Bergstrom.....	978-6541
Swim Team.....	Jane Akl.....	280-9730
	Jane Roper.....	764-9593
Dive Team.....	Pat Stafford.....	978-3768
Tennis Teams/Lessons.....	Judith Rheinstrom.....	425-3315

Messages may be left 8 a.m.-9 p.m. on the THA business phone...978-0859

Hearing on JCCNV-Gesher School Issue Postponed

By David Jones

The public hearing on the proposed amendment to the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia's special exception, set for July 22, has been rescheduled for October 21, the Fairfax County Planning Commission announced in mid-July. The delay in the JCCNV/Gesher Day School hearing is to allow the center and school an opportunity to rebut portions of the county staff's recent report on the matter.

The amendment requested by the JCCNV and the Gesher School, a private Jewish day school in Alexandria for grades K-6, seeks county approval to move the Gesher school into the JCCNV, located on the north side of Route 236 opposite its intersection with Guinea Road. In its report issued in May (and summarized in last month's Truro Trails), the county planning staff recommended denial of the request, based on its analysis of the increased intensity of use of the center in what is basically a residential neighborhood, the increased traffic at the intersection and the inadequacy of play areas.

Representatives of the center and school have been meeting with members of the county staff and the Virginia Department of Transportation (which has primary jurisdiction

over the roads involved) to discuss a number of aspects of the staff report with which they disagree. After these discussions, the county staff is expected to issue a revised report. The recommendations in that revised report will be considered at the October 22 public hearing, along with citizens' comments.

JCCNV and Gesher School representatives briefed the THA Board of Directors on their views on this issue at a special board meeting on July 16 (see page 3). The board is not expected to announce its position, if any, on the matter until it has received and studied the staff report and has reviewed the results of the survey conducted in Truro by flyer last month.

FROM THE BOARD

REGULAR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING JULY 9, 1992

By Don Johnson

The Board of Directors of the Truro Homes Association met on July 9, 1992, at the Truro Community Center. Present and constituting a quorum were board members Janice Armstrong (presiding), Art Wells, Mike McKinley and Don Johnson. Also attending were Ralph Kennedy, Architectural Control Committee chairman, and Scott Brown, representing the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia.

ST. MATTHEWS SCHOOL INCREASE OKAYED

At a public hearing on July 23, the Fairfax County Board of Zoning Appeals approved a request from St. Matthews United Methodist Church, at the Route 236-Wakefield Drive intersection, to increase its pre-school enrollment and school hours. The school, which has had 70 students from 9 a.m. to 12 noon, was authorized to have 99 students and operate from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

THE COVER

Yes, Truro now has its entrance sign--after years of off-again, on-again--thanks to Jim Bergstrom and his NEAT crew. For his story of the sign and background on how it came about, turn to page 4.

Janice reported for Jim Tew, treasurer, that all expenditures are on target and the 1991 amounts are finalized. She also reported the following:

■ Letters have been sent to the Board of Zoning Appeals and to Sharon Bulova, Braddock District supervisor, regarding the dog issue raised at the last board meeting, stating that we oppose any variance on the number of dogs permitted at a residence.

■ A motion detector with silent alarm has been installed in the swimming pool area of the clubhouse; a person is sleeping in the clubhouse the night before each meet; no further problems have been encountered; and the motion detector light procurement will be postponed.

■ Several houses in Truro and vicinity were broken into on the night of July 4-5. Personal belongings were taken and a vehicle was stolen.

■ The hearing by the Fairfax County Planning Commission on the JCCNV-Gesher School issue scheduled for July 22 has been postponed until September. [Later information is that it has been postponed until October.]

After discussion, the board agreed to hold a special meeting on July 16 to hear a presentation by representatives of the JCCNV regarding the school issue. Truro's interest stems from the effect on traffic at the Route 236-Guinea Road intersection and within the Truro community.

Ralph Kennedy reported the following:

■ Letters have been sent to the mortgage company headquarters, the mortgage company assets department, and the manager and Realtor of Apex Realty regarding the condition of the residence at 8814 Burbank Road. The Fairfax County grass control department was also contacted. Some

improvements have been made recently.

■ In accordance with the disclosure requirements, he has advised the buyers of the residence at 4415 Ossian Hall Lane that the shed does not meet THA guidelines.

■ The meeting of the ad hoc committee working on the architectural guidelines scheduled for July 8 was cancelled and will be rescheduled.

■ Guidelines for ACC authority in dealing with lawn and house maintenance and appearance are not clear to him; he suggested that the ad hoc committee consider this issue. Art Wells provided draft language for consideration by the committee and/or the board.

■ Complaints have been received regarding tree limbs partially blocking sidewalks.

Ralph also reported that Mr. Lee of 8811 Aunt Lilly Lane has not complied with the agreement to make modifications to his fence. A draft letter to Mr. Lee requesting action was provided for review. The board agreed that a letter prepared by Janice Armstrong as board president should be sent requesting that the fence modifications be made within two weeks or the matter will be referred to our attorney for further action.

Mike McKinley reported continuing problems with the TCC maintenance contractor and that the contract may be rebid when it expires. The board voted 4-0 to authorize the replacement of two trees.

Don Johnson reported that a scope of work and specifications for repairs to the parking lot and park trails will be ready next week. He also reported that repair work on the tennis courts is scheduled for this week, and the contractor was requested to coordinate with Judith Rheinstrom.

The questionnaire regarding the

OFFICIAL
THA
NOTICE

JCCNV-Gesher School issue distributed with the July Truro Trails has been returned by 68 homeowners. A total of 53 indicated "Agree" and 15 indicated "Disagree." More responses are expected prior to the July 12 deadline.

The new Truro sign has been installed at the corner of Elizabeth Lane and Ann Fitz Hugh Drive. A letter of appreciation has been sent to Jim Bergstrom for his efforts in the planning, design and construction of the sign.

Letters of appreciation have been sent to Jim Shivar for his assistance in procurement of the fans in the clubhouse and to Marj Bridgman for her assistance in procurement of new curtains for the clubhouse.

Neighborhood Watch needs a new coordinator. Art Wells reported that Dave Barton has agreed to remain as the coordinator for a reasonable period until a replacement is on board.

The next regular meeting of the board will be on August 6, 1992. September 14, 1992, was set as the date for the fall general membership meeting.

■ ■ ■

SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JULY 16, 1992

By Don Johnson

The Board of Directors of the Truro Homes Association met on July 16, 1992, at the Truro Community Center. Present and constituting a quorum were board members Janice Armstrong (presiding), Art Wells, Mike McKinley and Don Johnson. Also attending were Jeff Karatz, Executive Director, JCCNV; Marie Travesky, agent for the JCCNV; Rabbi Reuven Taff, headmaster, Gesher School; Alan Brick-Turin, traffic engineer; Sandy Barmak, president, JCCNV; Ben Hauptman; Carol Brick-Turin; David Jones, Truro Trails editor; and Jeanne Gerber and Chuck Roper, nominees for the THA Board

of Directors.

The purpose of this meeting was to hear a presentation by representatives of the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia regarding its application to relocate the Gesher School to the center. Truro's interests were related to any effect on traffic density at the Route 236-Guinea Road intersection and within the Truro community.

Marie Travesky presented background and information relating to the application filed with Fairfax County to establish the Gesher School at the JCCNV. The current public hearing date with the Planning Commission is October 21, 1992. Alan Brick-Turin discussed transportation plans for the students and the impact of the additional traffic on the Route 236-Guinea Road intersection. It is their position that the school will operate outside the peak rush-hour periods, and the additional traffic will have minimal impact on the intersection. It is also their position that the additional 200 children expected in the school will impact far less on traffic than if they continued with the increased adult use of the facility as already approved. It is their contention that the original traffic impact study by the county planning staff did not take into account that 200 children riding in buses and carpools would not generate 200 vehicles, whereas 200 adults going to activities probably would.

Ms. Travesky stated that a copy of the document to be filed with the planning staff responding to the staff report will be provided to Truro. She also provided a copy of a fact sheet sent to the Office of Comprehensive Planning.

The board expressed its appreciation for the presentation and attendance by the JCCNV representatives. No action was taken by the board at this special meeting. Discussion of further action by the board will take place at the next regular board meeting.

■ NEAT (NEIGHBORHOOD ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION TEAM)

Truro Has Its New Entrance Sign

By Jim Bergstrom

The entrance sign to Truro is up --in case you hadn't noticed. It's located on the southwest corner of the Elizabeth Lane-Ann Fitz Hugh Drive intersection.

The sign itself is 30" x 60" and is made of three 2" x 10" redwood planks doweled and glued together. The colors are those of the TCC clubhouse: a beechwood background with oxford brown border and lettering. The background is deeply routed out to emphasize the wood's grain. It should not require maintenance for about five years.

As you all know, the sign has been under discussion for an extensive period (an understatement). Early this spring the proposal for the sign was approved by NEAT (our Neighborhood Environmental Action Team), the Architectural Control Committee, and the THA's Board of Directors. Thus far, all the comments we've received--about 20--have been very favorable: "blends well...not ostentatious...color coordinated...simple," etc.

TCC COMMITTEE

By Janice Armstrong

We are investigating options for a new drinking fountain, specifically of a design used in public parks that are more difficult to vandalize.

It's that time of year again when we encourage you to write us with your suggestions for rule or policy changes for next year. We would also welcome your input on new budget items. Please send your comments to me at 4146 Elizabeth Lane, Annandale 22003.

For THA homeowners who are not TCC members, we invite you to attend the pool one weekday per week as our guest during the month of

**FROM THE
COMMITTEES**

Sign Was Long Time Aborning

At a general membership meeting back in September 1975, Henry Minor, then of 4152 Elizabeth Lane, suggested that a sign identifying Truro be installed at the Elizabeth Lane entrance to Truro. The matter was referred to the Park Committee for study. Some sign designs were developed, but later disappeared.

Three years passed. The sign designs were found and presented to the Board of Directors, which again referred them to the Park Committee for its recommendation.

Eleven years later in November 1989, Joe Tranchini, of 4104 Turkey Creek Court, wrote a Truro Trails article, "25 Starter Ideas for Neighborhood Improvement." Idea #16 was to build an entrance sign "to promote community identity and pride."

When the ad hoc NO ROT Committee was formed the next spring, its chairman, Jim Bergstrom, went to work on Joe's 25 ideas. When the committee got to Idea #16 in the fall of 1990, the Board of Directors authorized NO ROT to proceed with designs and costs.

In September 1991 the members approved a motion that the design continue at a cost not to exceed \$1,500--to be funded in 1992.

The sign design was approved by the Board of Directors in June 1992 and the sign was erected on July 7.

--David Jones

August. We hope you'll see what you're missing and purchase a membership for next year. We'd like to see more of you.

state routes through Truro or on any of the issues raised by the petition of the Jewish Community Center and the Geshar School. As a Fairfax County taxpayer, I have the right to take a position on the issues; as your president, I respect that you do not have the choice to revoke your membership if I don't represent you. Therefore, I shall vote, as I did last spring, not to take a position on your behalf.

4440 Holborn Ave., Annandale, VA 22003. Let them know that you think this is a community issue, that it is important to you, and that you support the WFES-PTA/TBL position.

--Eileen Elgin, WFES-PTA
Jim Kohler, TBL

LETTERS

Let's NOT Carpet the WFES Gym

The Wakefield Forest Elementary School PTA and the Turnpike Basketball League have joined to try to keep alive the TBL, a major winter activity for our children for many years. We're asking for the support of members of the Truro community.

Renovations to the WFES will begin in August. Plans call for the carpeting of the gym floor, making it unusable for competitive basketball. The WFES has one of only two suitable gyms in the area available to the TBL. Most local schools have smaller, carpeted "multi-purpose" rooms. Carpeting the WFES gym would be the death knell for the TBL.

Some school board members feel that these decisions are best left to the community of interest. Our school board member, Laura McDowall seems ambivalent on this issue. She has held one informational meeting. Another, perhaps decisive, meeting is planned for September.

Dr. Alton Hlavin, superintendent of facilities, has said that he believes all elementary school gyms/multi-purpose rooms should be carpeted in order to avert community discussion of opposition to this. Unless we speak out now, the decision will be out of our hands.

Please write to both Laura I. McDowall, FCPS, 10400 Page Ave., Fairfax, VA 22032, and Sharon Bullova, Braddock District supervisor,

SPORTS AND RECREATION

TENNIS

By Judith Rheinstrom (425-3315)

A recent incident on the tennis courts prompts me to write this. At 7 p.m. on a Tuesday night, a non-TCC junior incorrectly asked two adults playing on a court to leave. He also used another TCC junior's name on the sign-up sheet. The adults who were asked to leave were new members, and said that they felt somewhat intimidated.

This was not right! And I have written letters to both parties, enclosing copies of the rules.

The rules state: "After 5:30 p.m. on weekdays, ONLY adults may reserve the courts....Any authorized adult may ask juniors to vacate a court....Tell unauthorized tennis court users to leave and report them to the Tennis Representative. Increased unauthorized use of the courts has become a...problem. It takes available time from the people who actually pay for the courts as well as adding to court wear and tear. When possible to identify either repeat or rude offenders, they will be billed for court time."

There are two messages in all of this:

- Know the rules and apply them.

- Tell the tennis representative about the unauthorized use.

We have wonderful facilities and it's up to us to be diligent and keep them that way for the members.

ARCHITECTURAL COMMITTEE

By Ralph Kennedy

The Architectural Control Committee met at 8 p.m. on July 14 at the Truro Community Center. Members present were Ralph Kennedy (chairman), Paz Alvir, Will Avila and Donna Scott.

The chairman briefed the committee on the action to be taken by the THA Board of Directors concerning a fence currently in violation of the ACC guidelines. In addition, the ACC was given an update on a home on Ossian Hall Lane that was found in violation of the guidelines during a pre-sale inspection. In this case, a large metal storage shed had been erected on the property. [The shed has since been removed.]

The committee also discussed the status of actions concerning a home for sale on Burbank Road that has been allowed to deteriorate since being vacated by the previous owners.

The ACC considered a request from a homeowner on Ossian Hall Lane to construct an addition to a deck/patio. The request met the standards of the ACC guidelines and was approved.

There being no further business to discuss, the committee adjourned at 9 p.m.

■ ■ ■

During the past month, the ACC has conducted two checks of homes for compliance with ACC guidelines prior to sale. One, mentioned in the ACC meeting minutes, was not approved. Homeowners are reminded to check the ACC guidelines prior to altering their homes. The ACC is happy to answer questions and work with homeowners to ensure that plans for projects are in conformance with the guidelines. The guidelines clearly state that the ACC should be contacted, in writing, before any construction begins.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Homeowner Associations and Civic Associations: A Distinct Difference

By Janice Armstrong

The Fairfax County Homeowners Association Manual states that "Homeowner associations are distinguished from other civic and community associations by the fact that membership in them is mandatory and occurs automatically with the purchase of a house." Membership documents clearly define the rights and responsibilities of the members as well as the duties and powers of the elected officers. The interests are restricted to the architectural control of individual properties and the maintenance and use of common properties.

Other community associations are joined by choice. Residents and taxpayers join together in neighborhoods to promote common interests or lobby the county on political issues. If a family does not agree with the group's position, it can elect not to be represented by that group.

Because of this distinct difference in choice, it is my personal position that board members of a homeowners association exceed their authority when they presume to represent the diverse membership on issues outside the common interests as defined by the legal documents. Board members must, in my opinion, be very careful not to abuse their power and further their personal agendas by speaking for those who do not want to be spoken for.

Regarding the recent survey that was circulated in Truro, I would like to comment that the results were predictable, in that a diverse community returned a variety of responses--some very emotional. It is my opinion that the THA Board of Directors cannot fairly represent the association members by taking any position regarding traffic on

TRAVELERS' NOTEBOOK



BARBECUE AT BUBBA'S

By T. Homer Aargh

While I was visiting down in North Carolina a few weeks ago, I took a detour to go see my buddy Bubba, way out on the Outer Banks. Yeah, I know, that's a long detour.

Bubba's a real good old boy. Runs Bubba's BBQ way down in Frisco, a little town just south of the Hatteras light. He makes what some folks say is the best barbecue up and down the Carolina coast. He's built sorta like a barrel. Wears a soggy T-shirt and a old baseball cap, and sits at the cash register and takes orders and money--and talks a whole lot, like good old boys usually do.

Bubba's a real Redskin fan, too. So much so that he went out to Superbowl XXII back in 1988 and served the whole team his great barbecue. Wouldn't be surprised if that helped the Redskins win.

Now, there's a reason why Bubba roots for the Redskins. You see, Bubba isn't a home-grown good old boy. He was born in--you guessed it--Washington, D.C. He got fed up with that, though, and moved down to the Outer Banks. There he not only turns out that super barbecue, but some mighty fine key lime pie, too. Well, Miz Bubba does, using juice sent up from Florida.

Anyway, when I'd kid Bubba about all those things we folks living outside the Beltway say about those who live inside it, he'd get sorta quiet. So I'd ask for some more of his barbecue and tell him it was great--which was true. Then he'd grin and whack me on the shoulder and everything would be okay.

Because, you see, that's how us good old boys are.

CLASSIFIED

FREE FOR THE ASKING--4-year-old Frigidaire dishwasher. Has panels for black, almond or white exterior. We also have a 33"x22" white double basin Kohler sink (sink-and-a-half design). Please call 425-6574.

MOM AND DAD--Dreading your darling's back-to-college goods and gear haul? Avoid the hassle of lugging books, clothing, stereo, furniture, etc. Buy our '70 Ford! We ditched the teenie Honda and bought a grand old 4-door LTD. What a load it totes! No more two-car safari or costly U-Haul bills. Has a dent or two but in excellent condition. Highest bidder gets it. Call 323-0427.

FREE FIREWOOD--Fireplace lengths of oak, yours for hauling them away. Large pieces need splitting. Call Barbara or David Jones, 978-3857.

A.M. RIDE TO METRO--High School student commuting to D.C. is looking for ride from Truro (near pool) to any Metro stop (Vienna? Dunn Loring? Pentagon City?) 6:30-7:00 a.m. starting September. Call 239-2159.

FOR RENT--Wintergreen condo, 2-BR, 2-bath. Fantastic view; prices below resort; golf package available. For details call Brennan (978-2622) or Vernon (978-8903).

TRURO TRAILS

is published monthly by the Truro Homes Association. Material for publication may be submitted to the editor at 4205 Elizabeth Lane. The deadline for the September issue is

August 25

David Jones, Editor.....978-3857

Bob & Valerie Sutter,
Distributors.....425-3765

