

Calverton Current

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.....Bruce Donaldson

Traffic is still the issue of the moment. The CCA has been involved in discussions with the developers of the Great Oaks property, where a senior citizens residential community is being planned. The development itself is not an issue with the CCA; we welcome this type of community. The issues center around the best way to handle the traffic generated by the development and generally how to minimize the development's impact on Calverton. The developers continue to assure us that their development as a whole, and their choice for the location of their single entrance (which is the original entrance off Gracefield Road), will only result in a very small increment in the volume of rush hour traffic on Calverton Boulevard. They maintain that the great majority of their employees and residents will not be commuting during the rush hours. Even if they are correct, our concern is that, in light of the FDA move to the former Naval Surface Weapons Center site, and the Cross Creek and Country Club developments northeast of Calverton, even a small increment of traffic on Calverton Boulevard would be unwelcome.

To benefit from the greatest community input, the CCA invited the developers of what was temporarily called "Gracefield Village" to make a presentation at our April General Meeting. After the presentation, Calverton residents raised several questions: (1) traffic, particularly how it would be routed into and out of the development; (2) offsets for their two seven-story buildings from the Calverton homes along Chapel View Drive; and (3) new park areas along one side of the perimeter of this community to be used for ballfields that are sorely needed by the Calverton Recreation Council.

A community meeting was held April 15 on this topic at which residents raised their concerns and voted to let the officers decide how best to present the CCA testimony before the April 17 hearing of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

DATES TO REMEMBER

☞ **May**, CCA membership drive continues. Dues remain at \$10 per household, a real bargain. Block captains, please collect from as many households as you can. During the ensuing discussion, Board members expressed concern about possible liability resulting

☞ **May 1**, Thursday - 8 p.m. CCA Board Meeting. Calverton Elementary teachers' lounge. All residents are welcome and encouraged to attend.

☞ **May 5**, Monday - 7:30 p.m. Calverton Recreation Council Board Meeting. Calverton Elementary teachers' lounge. All are welcome.

☞ **May 10**, Saturday - Next Calverton *Current* Newsletter deadline.

HIGHLIGHTS OF APRIL CCA BOARD MEETING

*West*Farm Power Center*--Tom Fleury and Bob Abt of the West*Farm Group presented an update on the status of the planned shopping center at West*Farm. Fleury reported that the proposed economic overlay plan has been approved.

The center will include the following: Target, Super Fresh, Kohl's, Borders Books, Staples, Old Navy, and JoAnne's Fabric store. Plans also call for restaurants (including one fast-food establishment), and a bank (possibly a Chevy Chase Bank).

The stores will be set back 200 feet from Cherry Hill Road. There will be no access from Cherry Hill Road into the center. Three entries--one on Broad Birch and two on Plum Orchard--are planned for access into the center.

Plans call for construction of the parking lots to begin in June. Construction of the Target store is slated to begin in September. The sign for Staples will probably be red and will be higher than the rest. Two signs 40 feet high and internally lighted will be at one end of Plum Orchard. The two signs will advertise six stores.

Playground Equipment--Dave Cooley, representing the Calverton Recreation Council (CRC), requested that the CCA join the CRC and donate \$1,000 for playground equipment to the Calverton Elementary PTA. The Board has been advised that the PTA cannot directly operate accounts as a vehicle for fundraising for the equipment. Dave reported that fundraisers are planned to raise additional funds for the equipment.

from any injuries that might result from use of the equipment. A motion was passed requiring the Board

to: 1) obtain legal counsel about the possible liability, 2) investigate why PTAs are reluctant to operate fundraising accounts, 3) require anyone to whom the CCA might donate the funds for the playground equipment to provide a budget and plan of action, and 4) require written approval of the concerned principal, PTA president, and Park and Planning officials whenever such equipment is purchased.

Playing Field Shortage--Dave Cooley mentioned a recent newspaper article concerning the shortage of playing fields for soccer and other sports activities in the Calverton area. A proposal was made to inquire about possible use of the open area near the Calverton sign on Route 29 for sporting events. The Board was divided on the proposal. Several Board members noted that fields in this area are frequently not available and that teams often are required to use playing fields in distant parts of the county. The Board decided to determine who owns the land, check out any noise problems, assess the parking situation, and investigate any objections of residents in the vicinity. A small park is planned for the area of Old Columbia, near Tech Road.

Retirement Village--Plans are moving forward on the retirement center at the old Great Oaks property. The center will house 2,600 residents and about 700-900 employees. As noted elsewhere, the Board has many concerns regarding the impact of this center.

Bike Trail--Concern was expressed of the advisability of encouraging children to bike on a trail near Calverton. There have been problems with kids on bikes at the Calverton Shopping Center.

Mosquitos--CCA voted to join the mosquito spraying program (see separate article).

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT NEEDED TO CONTROL CRIME

The March *Current* described Major Fuller's plan to establish a Fax network in Prince Georges County District VI to disseminate to citizens information about burglaries and criminal patterns. Citizens can also provided valuable information along the same lines to the police. Volunteers are needed to serve as Police Information Disseminators. The program needs community volunteers to be operational. Anyone wishing to become a volunteer Police Information Disseminator should call Sergeant Rafael Hylton at 301-937-0910, or fax your name, address, fax and telephone numbers to the District VI office at 301-595-

CALVERTON RECREATION COUNCIL (CRC) AWARDS BANQUET

8279. Forms are available at the District VI office on Sellman Road.

No articles or reports for the edit will be accepted without an accompanying name and phone number. Authors may remain anonymous (but must be identified to the Editor). All copy subject to editing. CA NEWSLETTER ADS, P.O. Box 21, Beltsville, MD 20704-0021.

Copy DEADLINE for JUNE issue is **May 10**; it should be at YOUR door by the **LAST WEEK** of **MAY**.

SITE 2 UPDATE

A letter was sent to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on February 28 requesting that all grant funds used in the construction of Site 2 be forgiven. The grants program contributed almost \$29 million to the development of the facility, which had a total capital cost of \$68 million. The EPA replied to the WSSC in early April requesting additional information on four questions. The response will be prepared by the Prince Georges and Montgomery County Executives and is scheduled to return to EPA by the end of April.

The four questions included: what was the counties' analysis of grant issues; what about the court orders in the IMA; what about winter land application and any excess sludge created by not composting; and what about the salvage value and/or reuse of Site 2. Montgomery County officials who have reviewed the EPA request seem confident they can successfully address the four questions. **We must remember that no decision has been made to close Site 2.** A number of serious issues remain to be worked out in the coming months before that decision can be made.

As you have in the past, please continue to call the Sludge Hotline when you detect the odors.

POOL MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE

The Calverton Swim Club has a limited number of memberships for sale. The Swim Club features a 50-meter Olympic-size pool, a basketball court, two ping pong tables, and three sand volleyball courts. Summer activities include women's, men's, and coed volleyball leagues; swim and dive teams; swim lessons; and family, adult, teen, and preteen social events. Purchase price is \$500. To purchase a membership or for more information, call 572-4203.

The CRC held its annual awards banquet on March 23 with over 60 people in attendance. The Chester W. Speiser Award, given annually to the individual recognized as the year's top volunteer, was presented

to Tim Mann, CRC vice president and baseball commissioner. The following received the "Volunteer of the Year" award for their efforts in their respective sports: baseball, Kevin Crowley; soccer, Robert Davis; basketball, Kevin McCarthy; and softball, Mary Humphries.

Also, 18 individuals received "Outstanding Coach" awards for their efforts in guiding and developing the youth of our community:

Jerry Hoover	Dave Folk	Ted Jackson
Parke Brewer	Tom Hinkey	Peggy Davis
Richard Roe	Walt Harders	Bill Dehyle
Natalie Gazo	Mike Brown	Theo Botchway
Jeannie Koch	Dave McLeish	Charlie Krafthofer
Tom Stickles	Tim Joyce	Gretchen Herring

Additionally, 13 persons were recognized for their efforts and were presented with a CRC jacket:

Karen Tiplady	Paul Albretch	Charles Brannon
Chris Rager	Cliff Lawhorn	Duncan Munroe
Clarke Ewart	Tom Hinkey	Barbara Frush
Bruce Edwards	Don Praisner	Bruce Donaldson
Rich Grinberg		

Ron Lane, past CRC president, received a plaque in appreciation for his efforts. State Delegate Barbara Frush read a state proclamation renaming the Calverton baseball and softball fields on Beltsville Road as Chester Speiser Field. Barbara accomplished this with the cooperation of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission as an award for the 30 years of dedicated service Chet has provided Calverton.

TEEN LAWN MOWERS

The following teens have signed up to mow lawns for their Calverton neighbors. You may call them directly to inquire about their rates:

Richard Costen, 13000 Greenmount Ave.,
301-937-1481
Daniel Emmons, 14, 2900 Calverton Blvd.,
301-890-9538
Tim Mann, 12000 Galway Dr., 301-572-5521
Andy Mills, 15, 3100 Castleleigh Rd., 301-572-5541
Aaron Pannebaker, 13, 12000 Summerwood Dr.,
301-572-7274

HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

The Hazardous Water Collection Weekend in Prince Georges County will be held on May 3 and 4 from 8

a.m. to 3 p.m. at Parkdale High School (6001 Good Luck Road, Hyattsville) and Surrattsville High School (6101 Garden Drive, Clinton). What will be collected: oil-based paints (not latex), insecticides, pesticides, used motor oil, antifreeze, car batteries, and other scary stuff you would not want to go into the Chesapeake Bay.

CALVERTON COMMUNITY PARK

An appeal from the Calverton PTA President:

The Calverton Elementary PTA is organizing a cooperative effort among the school, PTA businesses, and residents called, "Friends for Fitness at Calverton."

The goal is to improve the playground. So far, State Delegate Barbara Frush and the 21st Delegation have been instrumental in releasing \$15,000 to improve the park. The gully on the hill was repaved, the sudden drop behind the backstop was leveled, an additional slide and small piece of climbing equipment were installed, and other improvements. The Board of Education will make a donation of \$15,000, but the PTA must raise an additional \$2,500. All donations will be appreciated and are tax deductible; checks should be payable to Calverton Elementary PTA and mailed to :

Friends for Fitness at Calverton
Calverton Elementary PTA
3400 Beltsville Road
Beltsville, Maryland 20705

1997 MOSQUITO CONTROL PROGRAM

Calverton is scheduled for both daytime larviciding (eggs and larvae) and evening adulticiding (adult mosquitos). The program runs from June-September. Spraying would be biweekly, unless there is high wind or rain. Due to budget constraints, Calverton may not be visited unless citizens report mosquito problems. Both counties may call 301-927-8357 (Mosquito Control Office) and 301-572-4030 (Nancy Peirce, Calverton coordinator). Mosquitos breed in water-holding containers such as bird baths, wading pools, tin cans, old tires, clogged gutters, and flower pots. Let's remember to change water daily in our outdoor containers. P.G. County will assist in the removal of old tires.

ICC PROJECT STUDY HEARINGS

May 29/June 7--Springbrook High School(
June 3--Eleanor Roosevelt High School
June 4--Magruder High School
Fairland/ Beltsville libraries have copies for inspection.

<p>Please call the 599-0377 990-3777 HOTLINE for odors</p> <p>Please report all CRIME INCIDENTS to Nancy Peirce, 572-4030 (Prince Georges County), or Don Praisner, 572-4647 (Montgomery County).</p>
