

Skyline  
House

# The

Volume 9, Number 12, December 1989

VOLUME IX

DECEMBER 1989

No. 12

## NOTES FROM THE BOARD

Dave Harvey, Vice President

The Board of Directors of Skyline House met on November 20 in the West Card Room. There were about 35 visitors present. The President, David Tilson, gave his report. He indicated that he had received a lot of calls from officers of other condo associations in response to the publicity relating to our balcony problems. They related like experiences to him. In regard to the recent circulation of a petition by former Board members, David thought that such an action was premature in that the Committee was still investigating and had not made any decision. He indicated that no matter what decision the Committee makes, a Town Meeting will be held to discuss their findings. The schedule as it now stands is that the Committee will have their final report by January and a Town meeting could be held in February to discuss their findings.

The Treasurer, Ed Bisgyer, then gave his report. He indicated that a number of treasury bills and notes had matured and were rolled over into new issues. Ed reported that the head of the FMAC, Julia Le Bert-Francis, the Assistant Treasurer, Don Fenton and himself had met with the new head of C.E. Smith accounting, Ruth Harris, to go over a number of items. The meeting was

(continued next page)

## NOTES FROM THE BOARD (continued)

worthwhile and productive, however, it remains to be seen what the future holds for their improvement in performance.

The proposed 1990 budget was then presented by Ed Bisgyer and a line by line discussion of the budget was held. In his preliminary remarks on the proposed budget, Ed thanked the members of the FMAC, Gerard Lagace, and Don Fenton for all the work that they had put in that finally resulted in the proposed budget and list of reserves. The final proposed budget has been trimmed considerably and Ed announced that, as presented, there will not be any increase in condo fees for the coming year. A number of items in the budget were modified and the budget was finally approved subject to these corrections. It remains to be seen if these minor changes will bring about any significant increase in condo fees.

Sara Schlichting, the Property Manager, then gave her management report. The first item concerned cleaning of the carpets. The Board directed management to proceed with getting all carpets cleaned. There then followed a discussion on the proposed antenna maintenance contract. It was finally agreed that the PPOC should come up with a set of adequate specifications to go out on bid for. The previous proposal from one company did not cover the whole master antenna system. The Board approved the award of a contract to Sting Security subject to the incorporation of some required changes to the proposed contract. The Board approved the award of a contract to repair the steam room tile.

### Part-time Work Near Home:

Mailroom clerk position \$5.00/hr., 19 hrs./wk  
for a professional association  
located at 4232 King Street.

Duties include xeroxing, stuffing envelopes,  
inventory, moving boxes, and changing light bulbs.

If interested, please call Dawn at 998-0072.

## HOLIDAY PARTY

West Party  
Room  
Saturday  
December 9  
6:30 p.m.

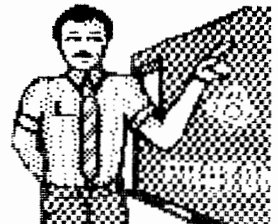


ALL residents invited.  
See details in the  
Recreation Committee  
Report.

## UNIT MAINTENANCE

EAST PARTY  
ROOM  
6:30 P.M.

A program by Ed  
Barstow, Chief  
Engineer. He will  
explain what must  
be done to keep  
your unit in tip top  
condition. A must  
for all residents.



## THE HOUSE SPECIAL

Editor: Tony DiSalvo

Asst. Editor: Nancy DiSalvo

Advertising: Tony DiSalvo, 502-E  
824-1958

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: THE HOUSE SPECIAL welcomes brief comments from readers. Please limit your letters to 250 words. The letter shall be signed and contain the unit number. The Condominium Association Board reserves the right to refrain from publishing incorrect or improper statements.

ADVERTISING. If there are service and/or trades people with whom you have dealt successfully with, why not let Tony DiSalvo know so that he can pursue them as advertisers.

Advertisements appearing in THE HOUSE SPECIAL do not constitute endorsement nor reflect approval thereof by the Skyline House Condominium Association.

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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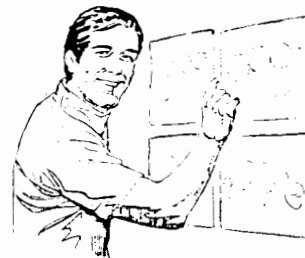


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(across from Skyline Mall)

3610 Forest Drive, Alexandria, Va. 22302

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear Editor:

I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to all of those residents that worked as the Election Committee at the most recent special election of Skyline House. I do not intend to list all of those that participated for fear of missing someone's name.

My special thanks to the Chairman of the Committee, Charles Roberts, for the outstanding job that he did under some difficult problems that were encountered that are not faced during a regular annual election.

My thanks also to Kay Kelly and her two assistants in the office, Karen and Debra for the help they extended when special information was needed.

It was a great team, and they were great workers in the part they played.

Howie McClennan, 414W  
Chairman, Covenants Committee



## APPLES FOR THE STUDENTS

Apples for the Students is a partnership in education between participating schools and Giant Food. Schools may obtain COMPUTERS by saving and turning in the special light blue cash register receipts. If you would like to participate for your school, please leave your name, school and unit number at the front desk.

No students at home, please help all our young residents by leaving your blue Giant Food cash register receipts at the front desk for Bette Stolarun, 1405 West. She will coordinate our program.

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE



## WE NEED YOU

Once again the position of Chairperson, Community Relations Committee is vacant. Your reward will be your contribution to one of SKYLINE HOUSE activities. If you are interested, please leave a message for Ed Berman, 1706E at the Reception Desk, (a past committee chairman) for information.

The Community Relations Committee, Skyline Plaza program (slide and talk show) on Fairfax County History last month was a most interesting program. The program was presented by Elizabeth David, an historic planner with Fairfax County's Heritage Resources Office. The program covered the period before the Revolutionary War and Mount Vernon up to the present day and what the County is endeavoring to do in the preservation of historical buildings in Fairfax County.

Now if we had a Chairperson, the Committee can get back into action and present programs like this as the Committee has in the past.

The Newcomer's Program is still functioning and a number of tours were given. Newcomers who have availed themselves of this opportunity always come away pleased. So new residents that have moved into Skyline House and have not availed themselves of the Community Relations Committee Newcomers Orientation Tour that encompasses their unit and other facilities of Skyline House, please leave your phone number and unit # for Tony DiSalvo (502E) at the Reception Desk. You will be contacted and arrangements for an orientation will be made. Often newcomers are contacted a number of times but cannot be reached. So please call for an orientation.

PHYSICAL PLANT &  
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE  
Ed Eng, Chairman

## MERRY CHRISTMAS



The November meeting of the Physical Plant and Operations Committee (PPOC) was held on Thursday, November 2 at 8:00 p.m. in the East Card Room. There were 21 people present, including three members of the Board of Directors.

The Board's representative to the PPOC presented actions taken by the Board at its October meeting. The Board voted to change trash companies from BFI to Waste Management. It also agreed unanimously to allow Media General to wire Skyline House for cable TV. Management is having difficulty finding a company to maintain the master TV antenna. It has received only one bid. The Board decided that the issue of the distance between vertical bars in the balcony railings should go to the Covenants and the PPOC committees. Then there was a discussion of emergency procedures and the issue of making public the phone numbers of key personnel who are on call during non-duty hours.

The next step for cable TV is to review Media General's offer to determine if it has changed from their previous offer and, if it has, to reevaluate it. There was a discussion regarding Washington Cable's service. They are on record as insisting upon being the exclusive provider of cable service, or they will withdraw from Skyline House. We are offering to let them be a co-provider of service, along with Media General. The Chairman had received a bid for maintenance of the master TV antenna, but not in time to distribute it. He believes the bid needs PPOC scrutiny, and will distribute it before the next meeting.

There was a discussion of the action to recall the Board which culminated in the special meeting on October 31. Some believed some good came of it because it was a catharsis which will lead to better communication between the Board and the unit owners. It was also seen as a strong vote of confidence for the Board, in view of the strongly lopsided vote NOT to recall the Board.

There was a report on the work of the Special Management Review Committee. It is formulating what is needed in a management agreement, and is reviewing the PPOC resolution in this area. This led to a discussion of the Washington Post article on the pros and cons of a condominium hiring its own professional manager, rather than having a management firm. The Post article generally was not in favor of a professional manager in lieu of a management firm. Kay Kelly is revising the front desk operations manual. She said it would be completed before the next Board meeting (November 20). The Board directed Management to give the revised manual, with the Board's changes, to the PPOC and other committees for review.

Next there was a presentation on the review of the Reserve Replacement Schedule for 1990. \$41,000 has been allocated for new items not previously on the reserve schedule. However this was offset by a \$42,000 reduction due to an increase in the anticipated life of the emergency generators. The total recommended contribution to the reserve fund for 1990 is \$241,000. This would be for items such as maintenance of balcony ceilings and walls (\$6,000), repair and/or maintenance of roofs (\$55,000), higher prices due to an

# DECEMBER

1989

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MON

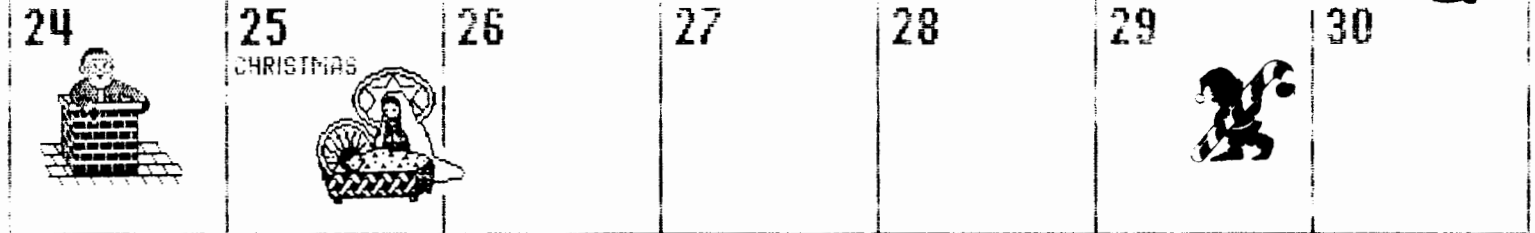
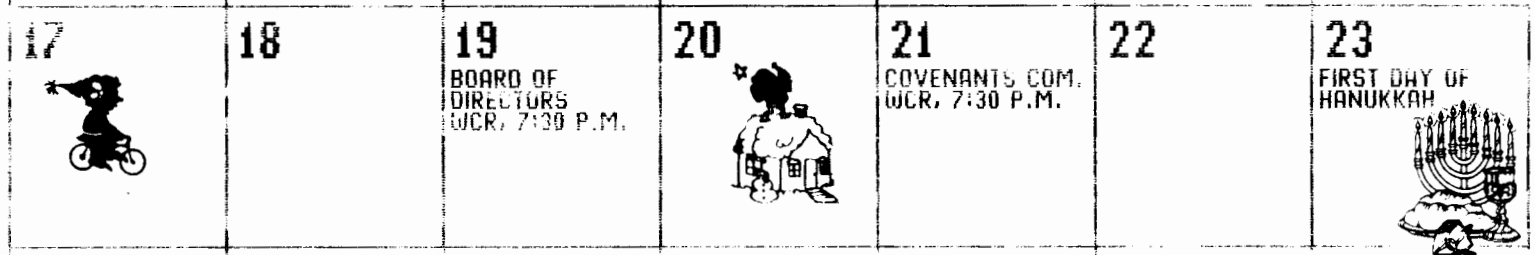
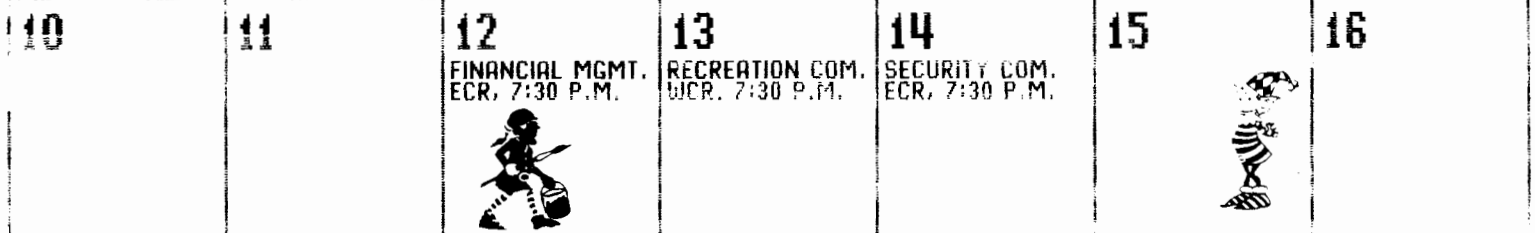
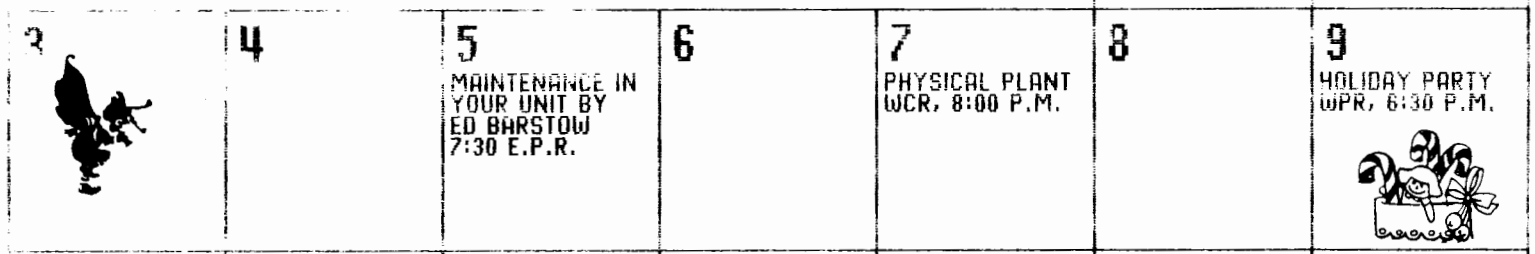
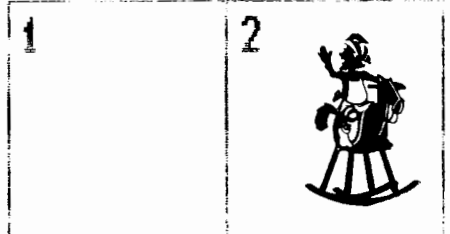
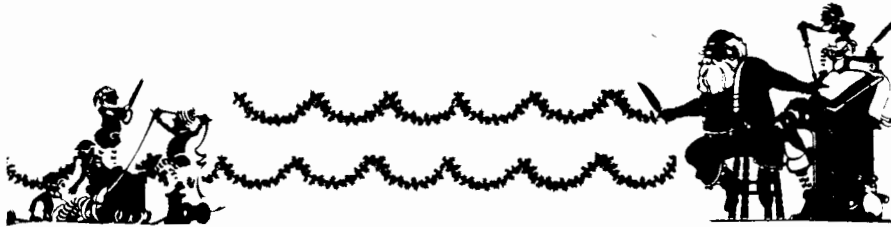
TUE

WED

THU

FRI

SAT



## SANTA'S HELPERS



## TENANTS COMMITTEE

Lowrie McClellan, Chairman



The meeting was held on Oct. 26 with 20 members and two Board members present.

Registration desks will be open at 7 p.m. and the meeting will start as soon after 7:30 as a quorum is attained. Following discussion of the pros and cons of the recall, to last no longer than an hour, a ten minute break will be taken to vote. During the time it takes to tally the votes, a discussion of the balcony project will be given by Bob Lowry and Ken Grant. Dependent upon the results of the recall, nomination procedures were outlined. The Board President then answered various questions. He further stated that an attorney would be present in case legal questions or procedures are raised.

Letter from unit owner on use of bulletin board: A letter was received from an individual concerning posting a notice offering baby sitting service. After the Chairman checked it out, he found that the notice was for people outside Skyline House; he agreed that Management had acted properly and the notice should not be posted.

Entry into units in emergency situations: The Chairman stated that the Committee had previously voted on this subject and that action has been forwarded to the Board.

Release of names and addresses of owners: E. Grant believes this is an invasion of privacy and wants to discuss tonight exactly how the names and addresses of unit owners were obtained for the recent mailing of a petition. G. Frank stated it was a matter of public record and can be obtained from the court house. E. Grant moved that until

the matter is resolved, Management Office be instructed not to release names/unit numbers to anyone. By a five to six vote, the motion was defeated.

Four cars were towed and 21 violations of rules and regulations occurred during the past month.

Rules and Regulations: During the period June 1985-June 1989, there have been 13 changes to our Rules; the Board has taken action to adopt 11 of these 13 changes. The two with no Board action are as follows:

Party Room rules: This subject was discussed in February 1989 and there were six recommendations at that time. Several items were tabled, one was adopted, and others were defeated. The whole package should go to the Board after the tabled items are discussed. This subject should be discussed at the November meeting. Following this action, the Rules and Regulations book will be updated and reprinted.

The Chairman briefly went over the major topics covered in the various complaints filed during the month. Management took action in all cases either by letter or by personal discussion with the offender. A member discussed various cars parking without parking permits. The member stated that Management is tracking those cars and wondered whether this committee should become involved. A discussion followed concerning the illegal parking; it was recommended that the possible use of Sting Security to check on cars should be sent to the Security Committee.

Twenty-one violations and complaints were reported. One each, Trash; Air Conditioner; Bicycle Room; Water Leaks; Balcony Storage. Two each, Noise; Front Desk; Door Open-Locks; Odors. Eight for Illegal Parking.

(continued on page 13)

## SKYLINE HOUSE EMPLOYEES' HOLIDAY FUND

As the Holiday Season approaches, owners and residents are being given the opportunity to express their collective thanks to the employees of Skyline House through the Holiday Fund.



Many of us have given some thought to those individuals with whom we come in daily contact. However, it is important not to forget those who serve in a less visible, but equally deserving, capacity. The funds received will be distributed among the employees in accordance with a formula based on length of service in Skyline House and total hours worked during the current year.

There will be a box at the front desk in the lobby where you may deposit your gift. Your check should be made payable to SKYLINE HOUSE HOLIDAY FUND. All gifts should be received by Dec. 11, 1989, so the amounts may be calculated and the checks distributed to the employees at their Holiday Party on December 15.



Each member of the employee staff contributes toward making life at Skyline House more pleasant. Your help is requested in this traditional form of saying "THANK YOU" at this joyous time of the year.

It is emphasized that all donations are strictly voluntary. If you desire any information on what contributors have considered as appropriate in past years, or have any other questions, please place a note at the front desk for T15W.



A very Happy Holiday Season to all of you.

Millie Foley  
Chairperson, Holiday Fund

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JEFFERSON HOSPITAL  
VOLUNTEER PROGRAM  
Fairfax Hospital System

Jefferson Hospital, located near the intersection of Beauregard and Route 7, is seeking volunteers to provide support services to patients which contribute to the delivery of health care for patients and to the related well-being of their families.

Anyone interested in participating are requested to contact Beth Lehman-Marzullo, Director of Volunteer Services at 998-4973.

If you would like to talk to one of the Volunteers who lives in Skyline House, contact Nancy DiSalvo 824-1958.



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THE EDITORIAL STAFF OF THE  
HOUSE SPECIAL WISHES TO  
THANK ALL THOSE WHO  
CONTRIBUTE TO THE  
NEWSLETTER AND TO WISH  
ALL RESIDENTS A  
HAPPY HOLIDAY AND A JOYOUS  
NEW YEAR

MANY THANKS





## RECREATION COMMITTEE

Tony DiSalvo, Acting Chairman

The Committee met in the East Card Room with nine members present and the Board Liason.

At the November TGIF, the residents present as well as the members of the Recreation Committee bidded the Kaminskys a bon farewell as they move on to a new life in Leisure World in Maryland. Their helping hands will be missed. The Kaminskys were presented with a floral piece for their new home.

Instead of our usual TGIF, we will have our annual Holiday Party on Saturday, December 9, 6:30 p.m., West Party Room. This is the biggest and best party of the year. This event is usually attended by over 100 residents and friends. As usual there will be plenty of hors d'oeuvres provided by our residents and the Committee always provides a lot of extras. Mark your calendar and meet your neighbors....

There will be no visit to West End Dinner Theater for a while. The scheduled show, The Man from La Mancha was canceled and Barnum will be repeated in January.



As we all know, there was no Halloween party for the children in October. All the mothers contacted were a bit too busy at that time. And we thank Barbara Tenenak for her efforts. Another party was discussed but this time it would be at a time with not too many outside activities going on. We are looking to February for such an activity. The Committee will fully support such a children's party but we must have an interest from the parents. Parents speak to us.

It is not too late to thank Maria Boykin and Elsa Paez for the fine Mexican Dinner that they prepared

## Happy Holidays



at the end of October for Skyline House residents and their friends. Everyone had a fine evening. We also include a thank you to Les Boykin for his efforts in assiting Maria. Also, thanks to all the committee members who served this sit down dinner. THANK YOU MARIA AND ELSA.



New Year's Eve Party Bridge. A pot luck dinner beginning at 6:30 p.m. East Card Room. Bring a partner or ask for one when you make a reservation. All are invited. Call Betty Forman 671-9474 / 451-8226 (0).

We would like to have other activities take place but what we need are some new members willing to take on a new project.

The next meeting is December 13, West Card room at 7:30 p.m.

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### RECREATION COMMITTEE COMING EVENTS



Dec 9	Holiday Party 6:30 p.m. West Party Room
Dec 13	Recreation Com. Meeting 7:30 p. m., West Card Room
Jan 6	TGIF 6:30 p.m. East Party Room
Jan 10	Recreation Com. Meeting 7:30 pm, East Card Room
Jan 19	Pot Luck Dinner 6:30 p.m. West Party Room

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AGAIN THIS YEAR INSTEAD OF SENDING INDIVIDUAL HOLIDAY GREETINGS, WE HAVE CHOSEN TO DONATE TO THE SALVATION ARMY IN HONOR OF ALL OF OUR FRIENDS HERE AT SKYLINE HOUSE.

WE WISH YOU ALL A JOYOUS HOLIDAY SEASON AND A HAPPY AND HEALTHY 1990!

GORDON, MIMI AND SALLY FRANK



FROM MANAGEMENT



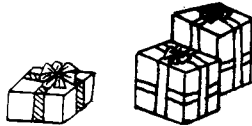
## THE PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY

The pedestrian walkway across George Mason Drive is NOT the property of Skyline House or any of its associates. It is NOT the responsibility of Skyline House or any of its associates. If you have any questions, comments or complaints regarding the crosswalk please direct any and all communication to the Virginia Dept. of Transportation.

## SEASONS GREETINGS

### FRONT DESK

The front desk serves as an important media of communications between the management and residents. Information important to the community is relayed by written message and distributed to the front desk mail slots. Management has noticed that messages are not picked up on a regular basis. Don't break the line of communications. Know what's happening in your community. Pick up your mail daily.



### PACKAGES

This time of year the front desk has an abundance of packages from the Post Office and UPS. Please check your box at the front desk frequently for packages.

### PARTY ROOM

For those of you using the Party Rooms, the management will provide additional tables and chairs at a nominal rental fee. We find that rental companies scratch our corridor walls, elevators and floors and wrinkle the carpets when

delivering furniture. We feel that less damage to the building will occur by providing tables and chairs from in-house.

When having a party please be sure to give an alphabetical guest list to the management office 72 hours prior to party date, and advise your guests to obtain a parking permit when they arrive.

During this busy season, it is very important that all residents remember that guest parking is for our guests only.



*"The mailman's busy season*

*is over and now it's the trashman's."*

### DISPOSAL OF CHRISTMAS TREES, WREATHS OR DECORATIONS

Please do not throw any of the above items in the trash rooms, halls, stairwells or grounds. Since all these items are combustible, special care must be exercised in their disposal.

Please call the front desk to arrange for disposal of these items. Porters will be available December 27, 28, January 4 and 5 from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm and on Saturday, December 30 and January 7 from 8:00 am to 11:00 am to remove your live decorations. There must be someone at home in order for the building personnel to enter your unit.

If you choose to dispose of your own tree or other Christmas decorations, please use the service elevator and take them to the dumpster behind the West Building, near the loading dock.

(continued next page)

## PHYSICAL PLANT (continued)

Under building, inflation and increased valuation (\$66,000), and other expenditures which would be financed from the reserve fund.

New business included discussion of an owner's request to modify his unit by knocking out a wall. Since this modification does not affect the common elements, nor does it involve plumbing, electricity or a supporting structure, the request was approved. The Board will be so informed. All owners are encouraged to follow the rules and notify the PPOC if they plan to make major modifications to their units.

Palmer (the balcony repair contractor) has extended his offer to reduce his price \$10,000 if he can leave his scaffolding up and start work on the next phase this year. Thus the Board has more time to consider it, and is going to have special meeting on the matter.

Concern was reported on young children being on the elevators alone. They may not be tall enough or knowledgeable enough to use the telephone in case of an emergency. It was decided that this was not within the purview of the PPOC or the Board. However, the concerned party did request that this be addressed in the House Special. There was a short discussion of the door in the garage which faces Northern Virginia College.



*A Merry Christmas*

## FROM MANAGEMENT (continued)

### HANDICAPPED LIST



Management is updating their list of elderly or handicapped residents who might need help in an emergency. If you think you should be on the list, please notify the Management Office.

### MANAGEMENT OFFICE

Management Office will be closed Monday, December 25 and Monday, January 1 for the Holidays.

### GARAGE DRIVING RULES

- (1) The speed is 5 m.p.h.
- (2) Tail-gaiting is not permitted.
- (3) Yield to right of way.
- (4) Put headlights on when driving in the garage.



### WASHING MACHINE HOSES

Washing machine hoses need to be checked to make sure there are no bubbles and are in good condition. CHECK YOURS TODAY. E. J. Whelan Co. will replace hoses in eight units per day at the rate of \$50 per unit. If you would like this service, please contact the management office to set up a date! The Board requires the \$50 prior to the service. For more information contact Karen in the management office.

### DRYER DUCT CLEANING



The dryer duct is the unit owner's responsibility. The Board and Management have made arrangements with Rite Way Furnace Co. to provide the service to clean out ducts at the cost of \$35 per unit. They need to schedule eight units at a time to offer this special price. Call Karen at the Management Office for more information.