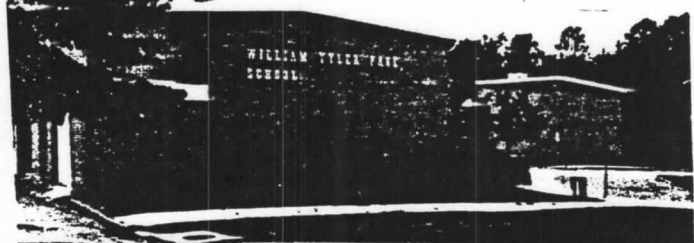
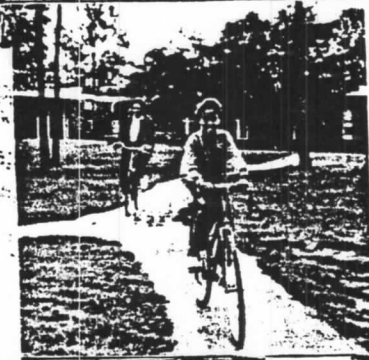




THE TAMARACK BARK

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

December 1986



OUR community grows up!

1966- The Tamarack Heritage, 1986



President's Message:

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

My family has lived in the Tamarack Triangle since 1965 and my wife and I are original TTCAers. The Triangle has had it's successes and failures but after 20+ years we can be proud of our stable, prosperous and enjoyable community. This coming year is Twentieth Anniversary of the Tamarack Triangle Civic Association. We have had some interesting battles. Many of them are chronicled in this Special Edition of THE BARK. Thanks to all the folks that helped put it together. Please read it, there are more than 20 years of remembrances in it.

This message is about the FUTURE with an eye to the past. That eye looks to our past success that was filled with cooperation, community spirit and concern for the neighborhood. We will need all of that cooperation, spirit, energy and more to continue the success of our community. I am heartened to see children who grew up here move back and become active in TTCA. That is a good sign for the future.

There are several major concerns that I would like to address. The central theme in all of them is adequate public facilities. The facilities that I'm referring to are not just roads but schools, police and fire protection, public transportation and the amenities that other parts of the county take for granted. TTCA has been very active in the planning process for the county. We need to insure our continued involvement in the future of Montgomery County.

There are four roads that directly impact the Triangle, Route 29, Randolph Road, Fairland Road and New Hampshire Avenue. They all are scheduled to be widened and improved. Fairland Road is the first. This project is fully funded and is expected to begin in early spring. It will be an improved two-lane road and the curves will be taken out. We are not so sure about the plans for Route 29, Randolph Road or New Hampshire Avenue. Preliminary proposals have not been well received. I am certain that we will need the support of the entire community to make sure our interests are represented in the process. We must work to help the county avoid repeating Rockville Pike.

Twenty years ago we participated in the debate over the Route 29 Auto-Park. It was allowed to proceed with certain covenants to be maintained, such as green space would be kept along Route 29 and Briggs Chaney Road to act as a shield. Since then some of the auto-dealers have intermittently violated the covenants even going so far as to trim the lower branches in order to park trucks and cars in the green space. TTCA has voted to donate to the highway department green bushes to do what we wanted to accomplish twenty years ago: place a green shield and buffer between Route 29 and the Auto-Park. Your association is working hard to insure the covenants remain in place.

There are other issues that need to be addressed, county trash collection for the Triangle, the Conley Tract at the corner of Randolph Road and Old Columbia Pike (750 piggy-back townhouses), the Inter-County Connector and the expansion of police and fire protection to our area. These and other issues will face us over the next 20 years. TTCA has done a great job. Associations like ours survive on people and commitment, please join us. Thanks for your support....keep up the good work!

THE TAMARACK TRIANGLE CIVIC ASSOCIATION

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:	Bob Mann
1st Vice President:	Doug Perry
2nd Vice President:	Jim Elgin
3rd Vice President:	Ron Stubblefield
Treasurer:	Andy Klugh
Recording Sec'y:	Irene Glowinski
Corresponding Sec'y:	Sandy Pappas

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Don Carbone**	Jay Feinstein**
W.T. Gibson**	Margaret Hansley**
Jackie Madron	Jim Offord**
Virginia Patterson*	Pat Sealton*
Ken Storms*	George Vance*

PAST PRESIDENT: Joan Mann

*-Term expires: 1987

**-Term expires: 1988

INTRODUCTION

(reprinted from Tamarack BARK, March 1984
Vol. 16, No. 1)

In 1982 Girl Scout troop 2311 undertook the task of completing the requirements for badges on 'Local Lore' and 'My Heritage'. Girls participating in the badge work were Candi Anderson, Stacey Bingman, Stacy Bray, Roxanne Brisker, Devona Elgin, Michele Flynn, Cindy Hedeman, Beth Herzberger, Jane Kang, Tess Kaiser, Nancy Lerman, Carla Manoogian, Elizabeth Mazzocchi, Brooke Miller, Rosemary Ostmann, Tori Paide, Danielle Robinson, Ebony Shears, Madeleine Smith, Chelle Voisinet, Karen Wunder and Terri Younger under the leadership of Peggy Elgin, Madeline Hedeman, Ruthanna Miller and Pam Herzberger. A special thanks is given to Mrs. Eveleen Carter and Miss Elizabeth McCulloch who served as resource persons. The following are some of the facts about the greater Colesville area which they discovered. Exerpts from March 1984 BARK, Vol.16, No. 1

FAIRLAND ROAD

Fairland Road used to be a gravel road. It was covered with oil or asphalt starting in the 1950's. There are so many layers of oil and asphalt that it looks paved, but it is not considered an improved road. Wagon ruts can be found under the pavement. Less than 20 years ago there was still a wooden bridge going over the Paint Branch stream. In 1965 the wooden bridge was replaced by a new concrete bridge and the road was widened in that area. Today many new houses are being built along Fairland Road which results in heavy traffic on this narrow country road.

EAST RANDOLPH ROAD

In the late 1800's, East Randolph Road was known as Old Annapolis Road; in the 1940's as Colesville-Beltsville Road; and was renamed East Randolph about 1966. In the early 1900's it was a gravel road and everyone had to ford Paint Branch stream. In the late 1940's a wooden bridge was built over Paint Branch and the road was resurfaced with blacktop from Colesville to the entrance of the now existing Tamarack Road. A new concrete bridge was built in 1963 when the road was widened and resurfaced.

COLESVILLE POST OFFICE

A post office was established in Colesville on April 12, 1823, on the southeast corner of East Randolph Road and New Hampshire Ave. where the Chevron station is now located. From 1879 to 1922 it was located in a house that served as the post office and general store. The mail had a Colesville, Maryland postmark from 1823 until it was closed on August 11, 1923. The postmark was then changed to read Silver Spring, Maryland. The present Colesville post office located at New Hampshire and Wolf Drive was opened in 1967.

GRIST MILL

Maps dated 1865 and 1868 pinpoint a grist mill on the Paint Branch at East Randolph Road. The grist mill would grind local farmers corn, oats, wheat and barley into flour. The mill was not in operation when the Hobbs family moved to Colesville in 1899. Today the site is located in the Valley Mill Camp which is operated by the Maryland National Capitol Park and Planning Commission. Recent archeological digging at the Camp has uncovered much of the mill.

SAWMILL

The sawmill was located on the north side of East Randolph Road in the vicinity of Bea Kay Drive. It was operated by Raymond Leishear, who lived in one of the two houses located in the area of Morningside Drive. In the mid 1950's the sawmill was sold to Mr. Smith who moved it across the road to his farm.

SCHOOL FOR BLACKS

In 1876 the Montgomery County School Board appropriated \$300 for a two-room school for black children in the elementary grades, at the intersection of Fairland and East Randolph Roads. Later another two-room building was constructed. The buildings were painted creamy yellow, had a porch out front but had no basement, shrubs or fence. There were about 30 students for the two teachers. If the students wanted to go to high school they had to provide their own transportation to the Rockville High School for blacks. The school closed about 1957 and the State Roads Commission took over the buildings which look the same today except for the removal of the porch.

PAINT BRANCH & BROWN TROUT

Two branches of the Paint Branch stream merge about 500 yards north of the bridge on Fairland Road. The east branch begins near Spencerville and the west branch starts beyond Good Hope Road. There were many small grist mills along both branches and pieces of fumes and grinding stones can still be found. In the early 1940's the Isaak Walton League of America hatched thousands of brown trout eggs in hatching units near the spring house of Lurelake Farm (north of Fairland Road) to stock Paint Branch. Even then it was difficult to maintain the fish population due to over fishing and farm animals muddying the stream and destroying the trouts' feeding grounds. Brown trout can be found in Paint Branch today, however their population is limited due to the urban nature of the stream.

SNOWDEN'S MILL

The Snowden's Mill subdivision is located on the east side of Paint Branch north of East Randolph Road, on land once owned by Richard Snowden. J. Thomas Scharf's, History of Western Maryland states that Snowden's Manor surveyed for Richard Snowden in 1715 contained 1,000 acres and Snowden's Manor Enlarged surveyed in 1743 included 9,265 acres. This manor contained some of the finest lands in the county. Construction of Snowden's Mill subdivision began in 1978 and includes 592 housing units, consisting of detached single family homes, townhouses and apartments. The Snowden's Mill Home Owners Association was formed in June 1979.

THE TAMARACK TRIANGLE

The Tamarack Triangle is a parcel of land which lies within the boundaries of Randolph Road, Fairlad Road and Paint Branch. Although some families already lived in the area, construction of homes in mid 1964 on Mimosa Lane heralded a building boom that led eventually to the development of the 730 home community. At least seven different developers built homes in the triangle. The Tamarack Triangle Civic Association was formed in early 1966 and the first Tamarack Bark newsletter was published in 1967.

WILLIAM TYLER PAGE SCHOOL

William Tyler Page Elementary School located on Tamarack Road midway between Fairland and East Randolph Roads opened its doors to 259 students in the fall of 1965. However, because construction was not complete, the three upper grade classes met at Fairland School and the seven lower grade classes met at Cloverly School for the months of September and October. It opened with 19 class rooms and now has 26 due to growth in the community. At Page the peak enrollment reached 542 students in 1969, two years after the 7 new classrooms were added. In 1975 the gym opened with 3,600 square feet of recreation area. There have been four principals over the last 21 years: Mr. Joe Howard-1965 to 1967, Mr. Gabriel Jacobs-1967 to 1972, Dr. Harold Stufft-1972 to 1979 and Dr. Lester Birchall-1980 to present

The school construction site was called the Tamarack School, but the Board of Education offically named it for William Tyler Page. W.T. Page was born in Frederick, Maryland in 1868 and died in 1942. He was the author of 'The American Creed' which the United States House of Representatives adopted in 1981.

THE AMERICAN CREED

by William Tyler Page

'I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign nation of sovereign states; a perfect union, one and inseperable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.'

'I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its flag and to defend it against all enemies.'

THE FIRST 10 YEARS: A REFLECTION

by Maggie Quann

(reprinted from the Tenth Anniversary Edition of the BARK, June, 1976)

Neighbors came together in early 1966 to form the Tamarack Triangle Civic Association and in so doing they named the geographical area which, through the intervening years, gradually established itself as a leadership community and a power to be taken seriously.

You say you've heard here and there about the Triangle's reputation for community action, but you're taking that assessment with a grain of salt? Well, as one who has just completed a historical research of the Triangle and the events you've all been a part of--you had better believe it! You Tamarack Triangle people are unparalleled!

It hasn't all been roses. There have been some failures and pain in the process of becoming what we are today.

Come back with me to 1966. (This year, by the way, we had three toddlers -- none in school. How about you?) We're at Page school where we've just elected George Draper as the TTCA's first president. (George is now Judge Draper of the D.C. Superior Court. We knew a good man when we saw him!)

By January 1967 the community was already aware that the school had to be expanded to accommodate our children. Therefore the first joint meeting was held with the TTCA and Page PTA--whose first president was Joel Chasnoff. (Joel became the civic association's second President.) Today as Delegate Chasnoff he represents us (including all of 14-A) in the Maryland legislature.

The Tamarack Bark was born in 1967. Val Fagin was the Bark's first editor. Our neighborhood newsletter began as well-written mimeographed paper which has progressed, through the loving care of 10 successive editors, to the model newsletter it is today.

By 1968 events were in high gear. (We had one child in first grade, two toddlers at home, and the maple was really beginning to grow.) Triangle Theater, the community's own theater group, was formed, a play chosen, auditions and rehearsals held. Working with a \$200 loan from the TTCA, the theater group presented Paddy Chayefsky's 'Middle of the Night' to a full house in November.

Community Day became an annual event in 1968, with marching bands and fife and drum corps, games of challenge and dancing into the night.

About this time Charlie Harris began organizing the youth of the area in Little League Softball. He has, every year since, been responsible for our son's and daughter's softball and basketball teams through the White Oak Athletic Association.

We're in 1969 now. (One toddler still at home and the oak tree was growing like crazy.) The first annual Fine Arts Festival was held as Triangle artists at last found an outlet for showing their talent to the world!

Tragedy struck in '69 also. A four year old child drowned in a backyard swimming pool. Lynn Vance gathered TTCA forces to do something about almost non-existent pool-safety ordinances. It took two years of time with Lynn and her committee researching and making proposals to the County Council. In 1971 the Council passed ordinances reflecting most of the safety requirements suggested by the special committee.

Triangle residents in 1970 were successful in halting the county's plans for building eight low-income houses in Colesville Estates. Opposition to the 'Appleby Project' came as a result of the lack of notice and the poor housing style.

A career program for teens got underway in 1970. Youths were placed in a 'summer internship' with a senior community member who worked in the youth's field of interest.

REFLECTIONS (continued)

Enthusiastic 'Trianglers' in 1971 began winding down somewhat. (By now all three children were in school and I was helping out in the Art Center. The trees were beyond worrying about!) After having organized and attended annual spring and fall dances, casinos, auctions and various other fund raising enterprises, the community decided to raise TTCA dues to \$4 per family instead of holding fund raising events.

Community and racial relations came to the forefront in 1972 when the TTCA/Page PTA-sponsored program, 'Living Room Discussion Groups' began. This program, more than any other single TTCA endeavor, established the Triangle as a neighborhood that knows the meaning of community action.

The Page PTA in 1973 established a 'Helping Hand' program for children needing a haven.

Paint Branch parkland-use proposals were made by the TTCA to the Park and Planning Commission. Residents had vetoed the original plan calling for a large parking lot and extensive clearing of land at the Collingwood/Lemontree park site. Park and Planning representatives worked with a special TTCA committee in drawing up plans to meet the Triangle's needs. With the exception of the hiker-biker paths this park area is now completed.

Metrobus began serving the Triangle in 1974 with a regularly scheduled cross-county run. At last those of us 'without wheels' had a means of transportation.

After six years of neighborhood entertainment, Triangle Theater in March 1975 presented Edward Albee's 'Everything in the Garden' to end (at least for the present) its long list of successful productions. Since 1968 Triangle Theater had presented 14 well-turned plays to theater lovers, providing a creative outlet to residents of all ages.

We're in 1976 now. (Our trees are providing shade and, miracle of miracles, our children are providing companionship.) Page School has its new gymnasium.

We haven't stopped to count all the births, deaths, graduations, Cub Scout packs, Brownie units, block parties, PTA fun fairs, bowling teams, fashion shows, job promotions, welcoming parties, basketball teams, teen dances or the myriad other threads that have helped weave the fabric of our lives in the Tamarack Triangle.

You've done remarkable things as individuals and through our many neighborhood organizations and groups. (We can count more than 1,000 people who have shared in the tasks of those groups!)

In 10 very short years the Triangle has grown from a fledgling group of homeowners to rock-solid community of people; people who know they can count on one another.

Tell the truth. Aren't you proud?

Sadness struck the Triangle at its heart this fall with the sudden death of May Inez 'Toots' Brooks on November 5. In her memory, the BARK reprints from its Tenth Anniversary Edition these excerpts from a story about Inez and Pat and their ..'our'.. Brooks farm.

THE BROOKS FARM:

SMACK DAB IN THE MIDDLE
OF A TRIANGULAR EXURBIA>

by Don Carbone

Any good geometry student can find the center of a triangle. But the Tamarack Triangle has more than one center. In terms of community activities--education, recreation, social and cultural events--the focus point is Page School. Geometrically, however, the boundaries of Randolph and Fairland Roads and Paint Branch Creek encompass an area the middle of which lies, give or take a few yards, near the entrance to the farm of Mr. & Mrs. Patrick Brooks at the bend of Smith Village Road.



Brooks Farm 1986 (photo-Carbone)

In that vicinity reside the Triangle's true 'old-timers,' those who lived here before the development era in the mid-sixties: the Burtons, Lees and Smiths past the Brooks' entrance; the Jacksons (kin of Mrs. Brooks) and Burtons between Squires Meadow and Wellington; the Johnsons between Wellington and Colesville Estates.

Probably best known to many 'newcomers' are Pat and Inez Brooks, for more than a score of homes border on their 10 acre property. Their dogs, geese and cows are a familiar sights to many. The six Black Angus are a special delight to youngsters to whom cattle on the hoof are as exotic as lions in the zoo.

As for the Brooks' view of their johnny-come-lately neighbors, their only regret, is the absence of most of the trees that once surrounded much of the farm.

Triangle residents who can't get over the increase in their own property values (or assessments) during the past decade should be astounded over the rise before development. Each Smith brother paid \$24 an acre; Brooks about double that. By 1962, when Pat sold 15 of his acres, the going rate had increased by more than the biblical hundredfold--to \$4,000 an acre. Just a few years ago Pat was offered \$25,000 an acre for a portion of his present land.

They are, in a word, content and in two words, good neighbors.

1976 TO 1986:

'OUR COMMUNITY FACES NEW CHALLENGES

What follows is a brief chronicle of the successful efforts of our neighborhood to grow and the people who helped. Twenty years is a long time for a civic association to be active. We have accomplished a lot. Thank you for your support!

1977-COMMUNITY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

by Andy Klugh

The Community Coordinating Committee (CCC) was mostly concerned with the operation of a Teen Center and how to make it more appealing to all participants. The Teen Center was open each Friday night from 7:00 until 10:00. We had 27 paid member with the average attendance being approximately 50. Non-members were allowed to come as long as they paid the necessary fee each night they attended.

Student in the 7th and 8th grades used the center from 7:00 to 8:30 with the 9th through 12th grader using it from 8:30 to 10:00 pm. This was mainly because the smaller kids were not getting a chance to use the gym for basketball, etc. (approximately 99% of those attending used the gym). The younger kids mostly found themselves standing on the sidelines watching the older kids play. Also, we simply did not have the proper equipment in the game room to keep them occupied and did not have enough adult volunteers to maintain the activities.

The center lasted for almost two years and provided an excellent opportunity for children in our community to play together and to get to know one another. By any criteria the CCC was a winner.

1977-SNOWDENS MILL: STATE LEGISLATION

by Sandy Morse

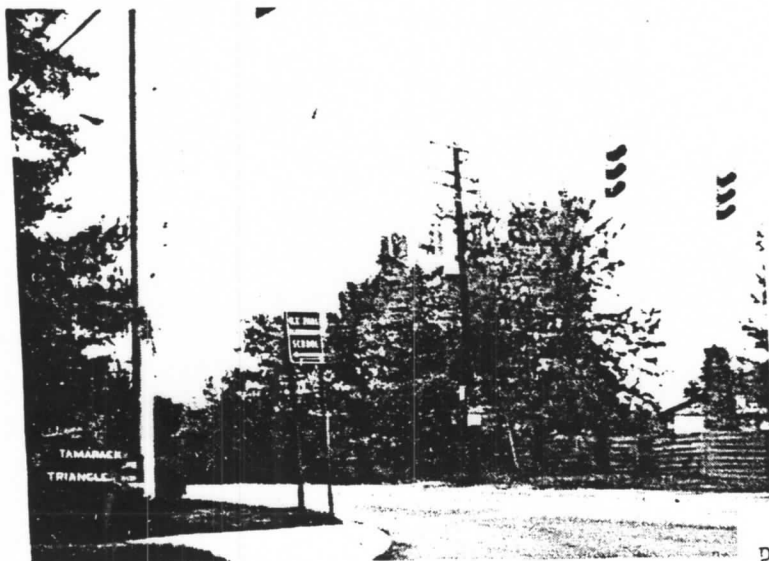
While the Snowdens Mill community was under construction in 1977, the developers proposed the construction of a dam and effluent holding pond. The TTCA testified before county and state agencies, including the Maryland Water Resources Administration. The major reason for our concern was the lack of adequate safety features and compliance to existing ordinances and regulations. In addition, we were very concerned about potential effluent discharge into the groundwater.

At the time, there was no requirement that communities affected by such discharge be notified of hearings at which a license would be issued. To address this lack of notification, Delegate Joel Chasnoff introduced legislation. With additional testimony by TTCA it was enacted in 1978.

House Bill 73, required the Maryland Water Resources Administration to notify affected communities and provide for informational meetings in advance of hearings. This law helped not only the Tamarack Triangle but all communities in the state.

THE TEN YEAR TRAFFIC LIGHT FIGHT

A summary by Joan Mann and Ken Burton



1979-GIVE US LIGHT: TRAFFIC SIGNAL UPDATE

by Ken Burton, reprinted from Sept. 1979 BARK, Vol. 12, No. 1

A second twelve-hour turning movement count was taken on May 30, 1979 by the Division of Traffic Engineering after letters from TTCA and Delegate Joel Chasnoff. The results were about the same as on December 7, 1978.

The report indicated the following:

1. Hourly traffic volumes were not high enough to meet the volume criteria for installing traffic signals.
2. A search of police accident files did not reveal an accident problems.
3. Travel speeds are within reasonable range of the posted speed limit.
4. Sight distance is adequate for both the speed limit and travel on East Randolph Road.
5. The geometry of the intersection is satisfactory.

The County has adopted as a standard the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices and the intersection does not meet it.

Anyone who has used the intersection knows that the Department of Transportation is not giving the intersection a fair test. One twelve-hour test every six months is not a fair test. The police accident files must not contain all the accidents that have happened in the past. TTCA will keep trying to get a light at the intersection.



1985-GIVE US LIGHT: THE FINAL UPDATE

by Joan Mann

The traffic light at Tamarack and Randolph could well be called a study in frustration. From the early seventies members of the Tamarack Triangle Civic Association sought to have the traffic signal installed. Traffic counts were made, politicians contacted, transportation officials pushed, promises made to no avail.

From 1976 to 1985 hours were spent communicating with state and local officials to obtain the traffic signal. Several traffic counts were taken by the county, the results never seemed to coincide with the community's knowledge of the traffic problem. Finally in 1984, through the office of Councilman Mike Gudis, we invited the Director of the Department of Transportation to speak to the Board members and then to the community at a general membership meeting. We had a full discussion of the problems at the corner with the Director. Finally in early 1984 his office agreed that we needed the traffic signal.

In March of 1985, after ten years of pushing, calling, writing and cajoling, the light was installed. Special thanks to the good offices of Mike Gudis and Joel Chasnoff. The new light has improved the quality of life in our community and saved our residents from accidents, jangled nerves and screeching tires.

The real question still remains a mystery. Why is the need, when it is as obvious as the nose on our face, not so obvious to the people who must approve such projects, like as our light or the Fairland Road improvements?



1985-A LETTER OF THANKS, TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT RANDOLPH AND TAMARACK

reprinted from May, 1985 BARK, Vol.17, No. 1

The following letter probably expresses the view of the majority of the residents of Tamarack:

' I wish to address my letter to all of the people who have worked for more than ten years to have the traffic light installed at Tamarack and Randolph Roads. Everyday my family and our neighbors had to play a game of chicken just to get onto Randolph Road risking serious accidents or injuries. Many of us are victims of serious auto accidents and Tamarack has had its share of personal injuries. TTCA members fought an endless battle along with our government representatives, not to mention the the residents who have signed countless petitions to have the light installed. Now, we as residents of Triangle can breathe easier and know our lives have been safer. My family and I send a special THANK YOU to everyone involved. Your efforts are certainly appreciated.

/s/ Nanette Schell

1980-81: THE MASTER PLAN

by Sandy Morse

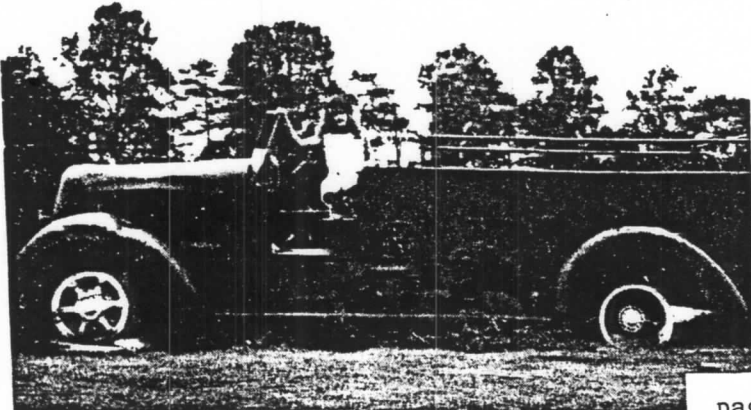
A master plan 'guides private individuals and the government in the way an area should be developed.' This plan amended six, previous plans in the area dating from 1961 to 1970. Work on the development of a new master plan began in 1978 when the Montgomery County Council directed the Montgomery County Planning Board to begin the process. It covers an area of approximately 39 square miles bounded by the county line on the east, the Capital Beltway on the south, Northwest Branch and Layhill Road on the west and Ednor Road and the Patuxent River on the north.

Between June and December 1981, TTCA raised objections with the Housing Opportunities Commission (HOC), met with the County Council and County Executive, not only on HOC but on the need for a housing policy. We also met with the regional and headquarters officials of the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Our major points of opposition were:

- (1) the cost of the project
- (2) the violation of HUD guidelines requiring scattered housing that were inacted to prevent ghetto-making projects
- (3) our displeasure at the cavalier attitude displayed by HOC.

Additionally, TTCA, working with the Greater Colesville Citizens' Association, was interviewed by newspaper and television reporters, had several letters published in local newspapers and requested the help of our United States Senators and our Representative in Congress as well as other officials at the federal and state levels. Consequently, in November 1981 the public housing project at the Broadmore site was withdrawn.

At the same time, TTCA worked very closely with Delegate Joel Chasnoff in the 1982 Maryland General Assembly. We were able to get four bills passed requiring HOC to be more open, hold public hearings, publicize its budget, have annual CPA audits and require prospective commissioners to submit to open hearings by the County Council prior to their serving or being reappointed.



1983-ONE HOT DAY

by Joan Mann, reprinted from Sept. 1985 Bark, Vol.15, No.7

On Saturday, August 27th, a number of residents of the community gathered at Page School for a fix-up, paint-up day. Thanks to the hard work of Pat Glynn, Jesse Stuart and the group, the school playground was rejuvenated even with the fire engine becoming red again! Many thanks to the helpers who came in the early morning hours and stayed throughout the hot day to finish the job. Everyone felt that it was a day well spent and made the school more attractive. We do want to thank all of you who came and worked so hard in the heat.

The school acknowledged TTCA's efforts with the following letter:

The handiwork of the Tamarack Triangle Civic Association volunteer painters has turned our rundown looking playground into an inviting place for the youngsters of the Tamarack Triangle. If you have not yet seen the fresh red and white paint, look at the gate posts as you enter the school drive. Glance immediately to the back playground and admire the bright red fire engine! Even the outdoor trash barrels are sporting a fresh coat of paint. If you venture out of your car and walk up to the newly restored basketball court, you will see gleaming white backboards as well as newly painted blacktop games for the younger children.

It is an admirable display of community spirit on your part, and the staff and students of William Tyler Page thank you!

To add a sad postscript, the fire engine was dismantled in November, 1986. Its deteriorated condition had made it a perceived hazard. Perhaps we should look around for a replacement?

1984-COMMUNITY ACTION: THE GROUP HOME

by Joan Mann

In the summer of 1984 several families in the Collingwood Terrace area received flyers in their mail boxes indicating Support Services, Inc. was going to establish a group home for recovering mentally disabled adults in that neighborhood.

The residents of the home were being discharged from State facilities and they would be sent to this house to learn to live independently again. Neither the civic association nor the entire community were notified. Upon checking with county and state mental health officials, TTCA began asking questions regarding the requirements for setting up this type of home within a community. The regulations, that were adopted by the state in the late 70's, were very strict. After much contact with the County and State, we found that Support Systems, Inc. was not in compliance with the regulations.

Multiple violations were discovered, from inadequate notification to underqualified staff. With the help of Joel Chasnoff, we were able to convince the State Hearing Examiner to turn down the application for the group home. It should be noted that we have a well run and managed group home for the mentally and physically handicapped in our community.

HIKER-BIKER PATH AT LAST!

by Jim Elgin

In case you have not noticed, the hiker-biker path, for which we all have been waiting, was constructed through Paint Branch park this past summer. The six foot wide asphalt path winds one and a half miles through the woods from the Valley Mill Camp parking lot at Randolph Road to the bridge at Fairland Road. Another entrance to the path is on Collingwood Terrace at Lemontree Lane.



Many of us who have been associated with TTCA for the past ten years remember the many communications we had with the Park and Planning Commission regarding the routing and construction of the path. Now, finally it's a reality. With nicely graded shoulders and adjoining areas, the path is a pleasant and valuable addition to our community. Take a walk or a bike ride on our new path when you get a chance.

1986- REALTOR'S VIEW OF TAMARACK

by Doug Perry

Everybody is always interested in real estate values in the neighborhood. Since residential real estate is my business I was asked to give a general update on values here in the Tamarack Triangle. Ten years ago, Stevie Lytle wrote in the BARK that the average price of a house here sold for a bit more than \$56,000 and that properties were generally appreciating at around 10% per year. She also wrote that houses were reselling at an average rate of 6% per year here in the Triangle.

Housing prices, as you know, have increased dramatically in the last ten years. In fact, the value of most homes locally have increased by between 12 and 15% in the last year. The average price of a resale home in Tamarack Triangle in 1984 was around \$112,000. In 1985 the average price was \$114,000. So far in 1986 the average price of a house in Tamarack has risen to \$120,000. I might add that we have seen several homes sell for \$130,000 to \$132,000.

The rate of 'turnover' in the last few years has been around 4%. It is interesting to note that some of the folks buying here actually grew up in the community. That really says something positive about our neighborhood!

Recently, we have had some new construction in the Triangle. The new homes up by Canyon Road have sold from between \$112,000 and \$120,000. The Ryan subdivision near Randolph Road boasts properties in the \$150,000 to \$160,000 range.

Values have come a long way in the past ten years and I believe that we will continue to see strong appreciation of property here in the coming years.





THE TAMARACK TRIANGLE A WOOL PLACE TO BE!

GROWING UP IN THE TAMARACK TRIANGLE

Many of us think that the Triangle is a good place to live and a great place to bring up children. In this 20th Anniversary BARK we asked several of our young residents for their thoughts. We thank them for their comments.

Elgin L. Klugh, age 13:

I was born in 1973 and have lived practically all of my life in the Tamarack community. Growing up in Tamarack has been very good. The elementary school I attended is right up the street from my house, and the people in this neighborhood are nice and most easy to get along with.

Living in an intergrated neighborhood has given me an understanding of how much people are alike even though they come from different backgrounds.

Although a number of people move in and out, many of the people have stayed permanently. As a result, I have been able to make some lasting friendships.

Special thanks to our resident artist-

LISA SCHERER

Roy Zimmermann, age 18:

Growing up in the Tamarack Triangle has provided me with a fulfilling and complete childhood experience. The families and friends in the triangle really make Tamarack what it is, a diverse neighborhood offering all types of youth oriented groups.

I certainly had my fair share; from Mrs. Hoffman's Cub Scout Den to Mr. Bleam's basketball team. Although I am not going to be another Tracy Jackson, Mr. Bleam, aside from being my coach for several years, gave me the chance to make more friends.

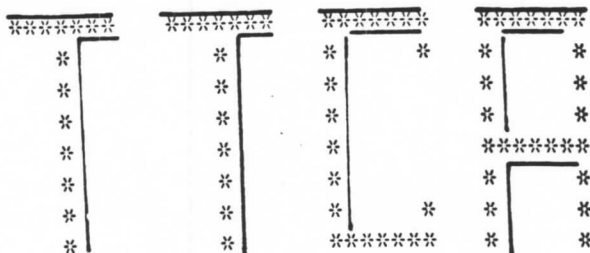
These are the people whom I will remember the most, my friends and their wonderfully understanding parents. I have had more 'best friends' in Tamarack over the last 17 years than I think I will ever have again.

The memories of these friends are what make the Tamarack so special: things like the club house in the Ginsburg's basement, playing football with Chris Graham, building treehouses with Ron Danaher, riding mini-bikes and going to the beach with Tod Musgrave and his family. These are all the things I will never forget. Fifth grade with Joel Browner and building go-karts with Todd Crawley; the 'Creature Feature' slumber parties at Mark Steffer's house and just hanging around with Albee, are memories I keep forever.

I wish I could thank everybody in the Triangle for making it what it has grown into. Friends and families, that's what the Tamarack Triangle is all about and that is how I will always remember it.

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Editors Note

Dr. Bayley has been active in the Colesville area since 1955. He served as President of the Greater Colesville Citizens Association in the 1960's. Dr. Bayley was instrumental in organizing the Colesville Annual Strawberry Festival and served as its first president. As a result of his years watching Colesville grow he has developed a keen interest in it's history and development. He is presently researching and plotting the early (mid-1600) land grants for this area. We look forward to more Colesville history from Dr. Bayley.

A HISTORY OF COLESVILLE

by Dr. Ned Bayley, 1986

Where is Colesville?

The most restricted location is the intersection of New Hampshire Avenue and Randolph Road. The first known use of the name at this site appeared in the Montgomery County tax records of 1804. It referred to a narrow strip of land along the east side of New Hampshire Avenue, extending approximately from the present Safeway store, north to the FISCA gas station. The land was owned by Edward Berry, who operated a store.

The most extensive location is that of the Colesville Election District. In 1886, it included the area from Norbeck to Fairland and from the B&O north to Burtonville. Voting started at Colesville in 1805.

Currently, Colesville can be described roughly as that area between the Northwest and Paint Branches, and from south of Meadowood to north of Bonifant and Good Hope Roads.

Thirty Years Ago.

Colesville was a cross-roads community just beginning to grow as a suburb of Silver Spring. Both New Hampshire Avenue and Randolph road were narrow and two lane. There were no traffic lights at the intersection. The Old Annapolis Road crossing at Paint Branch was a ford.

On the corner of the cross-roads, where Equitable Savings and Loan stands, was Cissell's General Store. The store was established in the 1860's. Across the street, on land now occupied by the Chevron station, was a house which had contained the Colesville Post Office from 1877 to 1923. In 1956, it was being used as a residence.

On the corner now occupied by the Potomac Savings Bank was Smitty's Esso station. Across the street to the west was the Naylor residence.

The Colesville Elementary School on New Hampshire Avenue and the Smithville Rosenwald School, at the corner of Fairland and Randolph Roads, were the only two schools in the immediate area.

To the east was the satellite community of Smithville, which contained farms and small acreages. William and Branson Smith operated a sawmill on their farm.

Farms to the northeast of the cross-roads included that of Elizabeth McCulloch, who started there in 1927. To the south, farms were owned by Anderson, Love and Wheeler; to the west by Bryant, Hutchison, Vierling and Bonifant.

Paint Branch was well established as a subdivision and scattered suburban homes filled areas between farms. Most of the home sites were one acre or larger.

The main shopping was done in Langley, Silver Spring and Washington, D.C.. White Oak was the site of a large dairy that delivered milk as far north as Colesville.

Early Schools

The first Colesville public school was opened in 1860 at the present site of Colesville Manor Park on Notley Road. In 1908, it was moved about 100 yards north of the present brick building that used to house the Colesville Elementary School on New Hampshire Avenue. The brick building was erected in 1930.

The earliest school for blacks was a short distance west of New Hampshire Avenue on Bonifant Road. In the 1920's, residents of Smithville donated land and money to build the Rosenwald School.

During the Nineteenth Century

At the end of the nineteenth century, Colesville was a farm community. Cissell's General Store and Bradford's Store and Post Office were landmarks of long standing. The other two corners of the cross-roads were occupied by a large, rambling building rented by the Hobbs family and a blacksmith shop operated by the Reeds.

Roads were unimproved except what is now New Hampshire Avenue. It was the Washington-Colesville-Ashton Turnpike. One-half the road was covered with large rocks to carry the weight of wagons; the other half was smooth dirt for buggies. A toll of 2 cents a mile was collected at Mrs. K's Toll House, White Oak and Ednor.

Until 1844, Old Annapolis Road was a series of private roads. Use of each segment was subject to the land owners permission. Then in 1844, after four years of deliberation, the county purchased the right-of-way and made it a public road. In some deeds it was recorded as the road to Duvall's Mill. Fairland Road was unimproved and was some times referred to as the road to Fawcett's factory.

The Colesville Post Office was first established in 1816 and James Valdmar was the Postmaster.

Following the Civil War, Dr. Washington Duvall, owner of a large plantation, sold George Smith, a former slave, three acres of land. Other Smith and Johnson families made purchases from Duvall and Miller, another landowner. The Jacksons and the Warners also moved into the vicinity and Smithville was founded.

Other farmers in the area were Hutchison, Peter, Valdenar, Mullican, Bonifant, Burr, Baker, Shaw, Bradley, Rawlings, Lyddane and Winpenny.

Duvall operated a grist mill at the site of the present Valley Mill Farm on Paint Branch. Valdenar, Kemp and others owned one or more mills where Randolph Road crosses the Northwest Branch.

The Old Federal Meeting House - a Methodist Episcopal Church - was built near Meadowood at the close of the Revolutionary War. Andrew Chapel, also a Methodist Episcopal Church, was built in the corner of the present cemetery on Randolph Road in 1869. The Good Hope Methodist Episcopal Church was built in 1872 on the east side of Good Hope Road, and St. Mark's Episcopal Church at Old Columbia Pike and East Randolph Road was built in 1876.

Before 1800

Evan Thomas was one of the major landowners in the area during the Revolutionary War. His lands included more than 1,500 acres extending from just east of New Hampshire Avenue to a point west of Georgia Avenue. The present site of the Colesville intersection was on his land. It is believed that his home, called Mount Radnor, was located just west of the present United Methodist Church on Randolph Road.

Evan Thomas was a Quaker preacher and a leader in the Society of Friends at Sandy Spring. He met with other angry citizens at Charles Hungerford's Tavern (in what is now Rockville) to protest the closing of the Boston Port by the British in 1774. He was a delegate to the First Maryland Convention in the same year. He was elected a delegate to the Second Maryland Convention but refused to serve because he sensed the meetings were leading to armed conflict. As a Quaker he was opposed to war.

In 1777, the Maryland Assembly passed a law requiring every citizen to take an oath of allegiance to the state, promising to defend it against all enemies. Those not doing so could not practice law or medicine, teach school or preach the gospel. As a Quaker, Evan Thomas refused to take an oath and continued to speak at Quaker meetings. His taxes were tripled. As a result of court action, he lost 3 horses, 12 cattle, 4 work oxen, 150 bushels of wheat, various items of farm equipment and numerous household items between 1778 and 1781.

Each time he rose to speak at Quaker meetings, Evan Thomas committed a new offense. He was brought to trial in 1778, but the proceeding dragged on for years. He was acquitted in 1783, but had to pay his fines and penalties. At the final settlement in 1791 over 118 acres of his land were sold at sheriff's auction.

Evan Thomas continued as a leader among the Quakers. He presented their resolution to the Maryland Assembly protesting the mistreatment of slaves, particularly the separation of families by sale and the sale across state lines. Between 1775 and 1782 he liberated the slaves on his plantation.

In his later years, he worked with a Federal Commission on Indian Affairs and traveled in the Northwest Territory (Ohio and other parts of the midwest) to negotiate with the Indian tribes.

Evan Thomas died in 1826 at the age of 88. His son Phillip Thomas was the first president of the B & O Railroad. Another son, Evan Thomas, Jr., invented a railroad car with sails and propelled by wind.

Early Farming

The landowners prior to 1800 were primarily tobacco farmers. Tobacco was so important it was used as currency to pay taxes, buy and rent land and purchase goods. After the crop cured, growers packed it in huge barrels, turned the barrels on their sides and pushed long poles through them so the ends protruded. Oxen or horses were hitched to the poles and the tobacco was rolled to the nearest port of shipment.

The roads were known as 'rolling roads' and were no more than crude trails suitable for only the tobacco barrels and riders on horseback. New Hampshire Avenue was one of the main routes to Bladensburg, which was a major port. The other main port was Georgetown. A road led from Evan Thomas' house to Georgetown - the predecessor of Randolph Road.

The soils were worn out by the intensive tobacco farming and by 1800 many had abandoned their farms and moved west. The Ellicot's of Ellicot City and other Quakers introduced the use of fertilizer and soon the farmers who remained were able to grow good crops of wheat and other grains, in addition to tobacco.

Indians

The first survey by white settlers in the Colesville area was made in 1695. The record of the survey mentions 'a Great Indian Field' on the Northwest Branch, a short distance north of the present Randolph Road. Exactly what the Indian Field was is not yet known.

Indians in this area were probably Woodland Indians who depended on hunting and agriculture for food. Sometimes they burned areas of brush to increase grazing for game. They also burned trees and planted corn and beans around the stumps. These Indians were peaceful and depended on the white settlers for protection from the more warlike tribes to the north and west.

Other Facts of Interest

The Colesville area was a part of Charles County until 1696 when Prince Georges County was formed and included present Colesville lands. In 1748 Frederick County was established separately from Prince Georges and the Colesville area was included in it. Montgomery County was formed in 1776.

The source of the name 'Colesville' is still unknown. Records of a landowner prior to 1804 with the name Cole have not been found. The search continues.

In land records and other historical documents, Colesville is often spelled Coalsville. Such variations in spelling of names were common before 1900 and have no historical significance.

Acknowledgements

Although the author takes full responsibility for the accuracy of the above information, the following persons cooperated in assembling facts about Colesville: Joyce and Robert Barendsen, Mrs. Robert Bonifant, Eveleen Carter, Mrs. George Cole, Mrs. Betty Fling, Lois and Culver Hutchison, Elizabeth McCulloch, William Smith and Mark Watson.

Facts not specifically referenced in the text are based on the personal knowledge of the author and memories of long-time residents. Efforts to uncover the full history of Colesville are continuing and new information may supplant that now available.

SPECIAL NOTICE

General meetings of the TTCA are held on the third Monday in March, May, September and November. The January meeting is held on the fourth Monday. All meetings are held at Page School, 13400 Tamarack Road, at 8 p.m.

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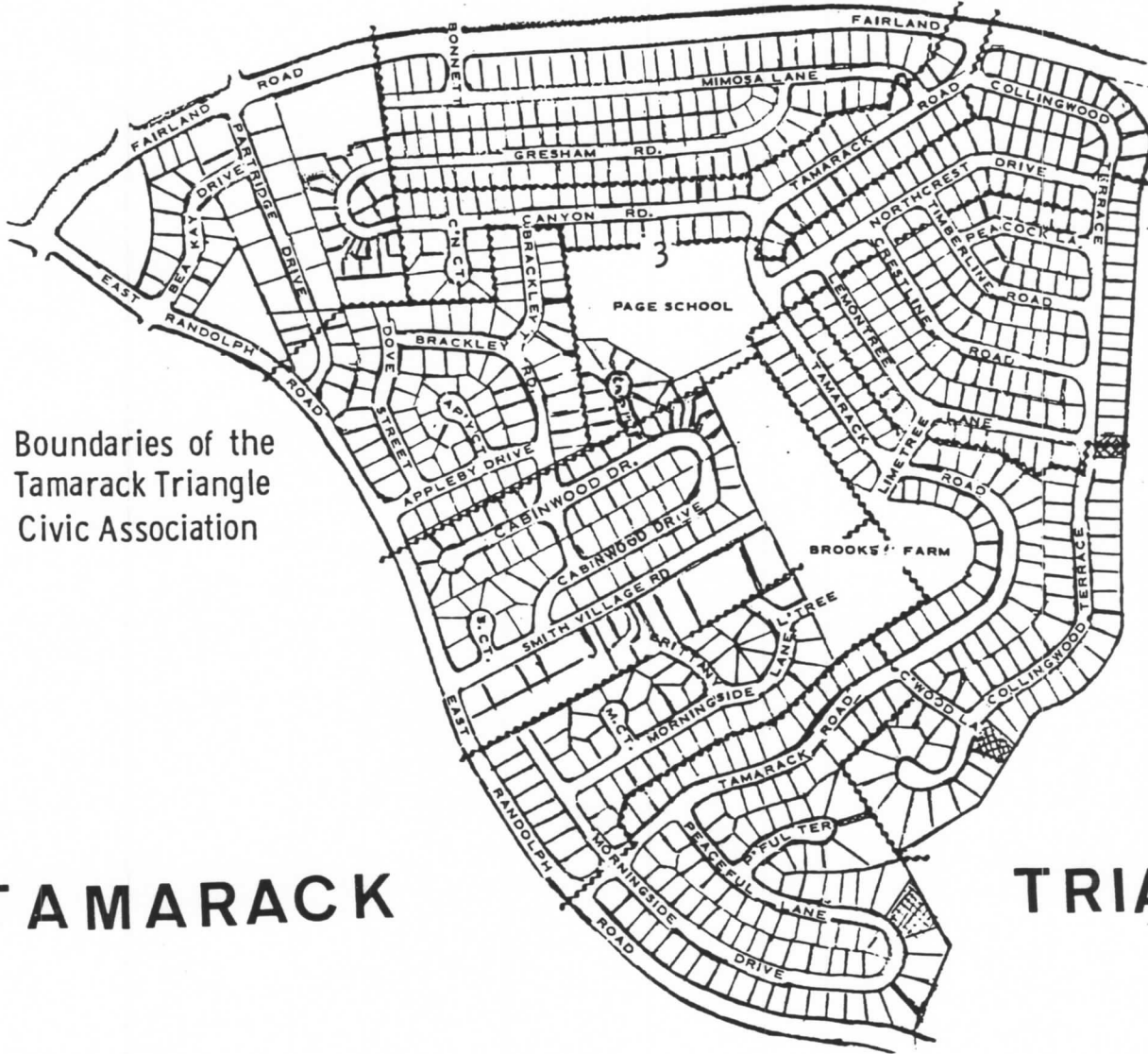
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