

## **Greater Wilton Woods Citizens Association**

### **Meeting of March 21, 2002**

#### **Memorial Garden**

Plans are being made to have a formal dedication ceremony for the Memorial Garden on September 8. Dana Kauffman and Jim Moran have been invited to attend. It has been suggested that we combine the dedication with a block party.

A number of people and organizations have made contributions to the Memorial Garden. The Shadow Walk at Wilton Woods Community Assn. has agreed to pay the water utility bill and commercial vendors, gardening companies, as well as many private parties have donated over \$50,000 in plants, equipment, materials, and time. Shell Oil Company awarded \$650 to sustain the perennials in the garden.

It costs approximately \$175 per month for maintenance on the Memorial Garden. Currently, there are enough funds to maintain the garden for the rest of this calendar year. They plan to have raffles, yard sales, etc. to raise money for the maintenance of this memorial for the rest of 2002. It was moved and passed that GWWCA raise our annual dues to \$25.00 and to take over the maintenance costs starting next year. The members of the Wilton Woods Garden Club will continue to oversee the operation and maintenance of the garden.

#### **Neighborhood Safety**

Lt Dan Townsend, acting commander of the Mt. Vernon district of the Fairfax Police Department, and Lt Ed Monstron spoke about crime and safety in the Greater Wilton Woods area. Traffic accidents in Mt. Vernon are up 13% and in Franconia 6%. In other districts in Fairfax, there have been no increases. There have been eight fatalities on Route 1 so far this year (3 pedestrians). There has been an increase in traffic speed and trucks on Route 1 because of the Wilson Bridge and Springfield interchange construction.

The police department has put together a comprehensive program of education and enforcement had have given out over 1,000 tickets since the initiation of this program. They are already seeing some difference.

Ron Manzo is a crime prevention officer with the Franconia District. He also serves as the traffic liaison with Supervisor Kauffman and VDOT. There are many programs offered by the department (most of which are free). These include: eye on crime newspaper, e-mail alerts, "Refuse to be a Victim" program on personal safety, the #77/911 cell phone program, personal defence training, home security checks, and anti-theft vehicle prevention. They will also come out and help start a neighborhood watch program.