

Shop the Mall at Manassas Sidewalk Sale



The Journal Messenger

3 SECTIONS—30 PAGES

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 1976

15¢

WARM AND HUMID

Warm and humid with variable cloudiness through Thursday. Chance of thunderstorms tonight and likely Thursday afternoon. Highs both days in the mid 80s. Lows tonight from the mid to the upper 60s.

Historic Signal Hill Again Becoming Center of Battle

MANASSAS—Signal Hill, whose historical significance is based on Civil War accounts of signal flags first being used there to warn of approaching enemy troops, may become the center of a modern day battle.

Prince William County supervisors contended Tuesday that the county owns one-half of historic Signal Hill. And they want the City of Manassas Park to clarify which half the county owns. Manassas Park, on the other hand, contends it is the sole owner.

The situation was touched off by a July 6 action of the Manassas Park City Council in which city officials

voted to send back \$72,500 the county believes it paid for half of Signal Hill's 114 historic acres.

According to city officials, Manassas Park asked the county to join in purchasing the tract before the city had applied for grants which together with local funds, financed the purchase. City officials said Prince William County decided not to participate. But in 1974, without further prompting from Manassas Park, Prince William County sent \$72,500 to the city for Signal Hill they said.

The county's version of the \$72,500 contribution was somewhat different.

County officials say former Manassas Park mayor Roger Costello sought and received a county commitment to participate 50-50 with the city in

has part ownership and she requested Manassas Park to share the deed to the property.

In other Manassas Park matters,

~~~~~  
"Manassas Park should pay what it honestly owes us without us having to bribe them."

— James Byrd.

~~~~~  
purchasing Signal Hill to save it from development. Woodbridge Supervisor Alice E. Humphries, who researched the record, said it appears the county

the supervisors said they will consider leasing Manassas Park Elementary School to the city provided rental is paid in advance and provided the city

pays the county \$521,675 it owes for county services supplied to city residents from Jan. 1, 1976 through June 30, 1976.

Coles Supervisor James Byrd was one of three board members who refused to go along with the resolution. "Manassas Park should pay what it honestly owes without us having to bribe them...they certainly owe us the money," he declared.

In another Manassas Park School matter, the supervisors said they will discuss with the county School Board whether the county can arrange to educate special education students from the city.

Betty Farrar, executive director of the Manassas Association for Retarded Citizens, appealed to the county board to educate the handicapped students.

Brentsville Supervisor T. Clay Wood said Manassas Park has a "dire need" for the service, and he promised to support a move for the service if it could be arranged.

One Manassas Park mother left the supervisors' meeting in tears when the board took no formal action on the MARC plea Tuesday.

The supervisors are scheduled to meet with the School Board at 3 p.m. Tuesday.

