

## Summer playground fun



Carol Bechtold and Crystal Matherly (right) weave potholders while Angie O'Conner helps program supervisor Ceily Poh make a puppet head at the Lake Ridge Community Center playground program sponsored by Parks and Recreation this summer. The program ends today. (Photos by Catherine Schauer)



# New Signal Hill battle

## Supervisors claim part ownership of property

A different kind of battle than the ones Signal Hill was used for during the Civil War may be brewing over the historic property.

Tuesday Prince William's supervisors adopted a motion stating that Prince William County is entitled to part-ownership with the city of

Manassas Park of Signal Hill. The motion, sponsored by Woodbridge Supervisor Alice Humphries, asked that Manassas Park share the deed to the property with the county.

Manassas Park two weeks ago returned to the county a \$72,500 check that had been

written to Manassas Park by the county several years ago. Manassas Park Mayor William Steele told the Potomac News that return of the money was an effort to "straighten accounts."

According to Steele, Manassas Park secured 105 acres of Signal Hill land

costing \$546,500 between 1972 and 1974. Federal grant money for all but \$145,000 of the cost, he said, was secured. The county offered to pay half of the \$145,000, he said.

Steele concluded that Manassas Park had financed the remainder of the purchase before the county's check for \$72,500 was received. Steele said there was little communication between the then town and the county after the county's agreement to help fund the purchase.

News reports of the county's offer to help fund the purchase of Signal Hill describe the offer as one of "goodwill" and former Supervisor C. Scott Winfield is quoted as saying the offer was "with no strings attached."

Tuesday, however, Mrs. Humphries said that after listening to the tapes of former supervisor sessions, she believed that "we (Prince William County) own part of Signal Hill."

County Executive Clinton Mullen said the staff is "baffled and confused" over the matter. "It's very involved," he concluded.

Asked what part of Signal Hill Mullen thinks the county

owns, the county executive replied, "probably the swampy part."

## Prince William chamber to reach for members

The Prince William Chamber of Commerce acknowledged a drop in membership, endorsed a new method for soliciting members and approved a "status quo" budget during a luncheon meeting Wednesday.

Dr. Floyd Elkins, newly elected chamber president, indicated that his immediate goals will be increased membership, shorter meetings and placing priorities on projects for chamber involvement that range from industrial development to mass transportation to crime prevention.

Communication rather than massive reorganization appears to be the vehicle the silver haired Texan will use

suggested that chamber members, rather than a traditionally appointed membership director, be used to solicit new members. Members, he said, would be given a list of potential new members in the same professional field for the purpose of solicitation.

Elkins, provost of the Woodbridge campus of Northern Virginia Community College, reasoned, "I can explain to (Schools' Superintendent Dr.) Milton Snyder why he and school principals should join the chamber better than someone else."

Elkins said membership has fallen off from 300 to 222 and needs to be beefed up to accommodate the \$39,700 budget the chamber an-

early this year.

- Voted to establish the chamber office as an associate office of the U.S. Commerce Department by providing shelf space for providing materials as well as assistance to people involved in Commerce Department research.

- Voted to meet at restaurants with a separate meeting room or that are willing to close to the public during meeting time.

- Referred to the chamber executive committee the matter of how to penalize chamber directors who miss meetings. The question of whether to bill directors for lunch who do not show at chamber meetings without notifying the secretary

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YES — We have 64 for double wides.

YES — We have 70 for single wides.

YES — We deliver.

YES — We have over 21 the mobile home

YES — We are Virginia mobile home de

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