



Keeping Burlington Informed

A Message From the Mayor

Introduction of Neighborhood Planning Assemblies

Beginning Oct. 26, Neighborhood Planning Assemblies will be formed in each of the City's six wards. The regularly scheduled meetings of the assemblies are designed to encourage voter input to City Hall on issues facing neighborhoods and the City. The assemblies will be open to all voters.

It is my hope that these assemblies will enhance citizen participation in City government. They represent unique opportunities for citizens to have a say in what their government should be doing. However, the active involvement of all City residents is needed to make the assemblies successful.

The first two assembly meetings will focus on priorities for spending \$800,000 of Federal Community

Development Block Grant Money. Representatives from each assembly will be chosen to sit with the Aldermanic and Planning Commission Community Development Committees to review projects for final recommendation.

The cooperation and initiative of the Planning Commission and the Board of Aldermen has added to the implementation of this program. We encourage your participation and look forward to working with you at these assemblies on many other important issues such as the waterfront, housing, traffic, and city budget. More information is available by calling my office or Michael Monte in the Planning Department 862-5711.

WE'RE MODERNIZING CITY GOVERNMENT

In recent months the Treasurer's Office has been modernizing the City's financial management and administration. The first step was to establish a more efficient cash management program. This provides for the investment of all idle cash with the goal of earning more interest income. Burlington is the first City in Vermont to implement such a program.

Cost-savings is an important part of managing city funds and a new central phone system for City Hall demonstrates this effort. Not only will the City save money with this new system, but it will also make it easier for citizens to call City Hall departments. Another cost-savings approach by the City has been a co-operative purchasing program. This program encourages joint competitive purchases. Not only are City departments involved, but so are many neighboring towns and cities.

The Treasurer's Office is also re-vamping the City's budgeting and accounting systems to achieve greater efficiency and to deliver better information. A new budget system will make it easier for citizens to better understand the City's finances.

Neighborhood Assembly Schedule

WARD	TIME	DATE	LOCATION
1	Thursday, November 4	7:00-9:30 p.m.	Early Education Center/ 50 Colchester Avenue
2	Wednesday, October 27	7:00-9:30 p.m.	H.O. Wheeler School
3	Tuesday, October 26	7:00-9:30 p.m.	Lawrence Barnes School
4	Tuesday, November 2	7:00-9:30 p.m.	Hunt Junior School
5	Tuesday, November 9	7:00-9:30 p.m.	Burlington Electric Department Meeting Room
6	Tuesday, November 16	7:00-9:30 p.m.	Edmunds Junior High School

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GROWTH OF OUR LOCAL ECONOMY

The future of Burlington and the well-being of its residents are directly dependent upon the growth of our local economy. It is important that we look to the future and decide what kind of businesses and job opportunities Burlington needs. City government should lead in efforts to retain and expand existing business, as well as to attract new business to Burlington. For these reasons, I recently appointed a Burlington Economic Development Advisory Council comprised of knowledgeable and con-

cerned citizens. The Council is co-chaired by Harry Behney, Executive Director, Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation, and Jonathan Leopold, City Treasurer.

I have asked this Council to examine the needs, difficulties and opportunities for enhancing Burlington's economy. Based on this effort, the Council will recommend to me a program that will use both public and private resources to promote Burlington's economic development.

Employee Relations

The first meeting of the newly formed EMPLOYEE RELATIONS COMMITTEE was held Sept. 8, 1982. The Committee includes elected representatives from all city departments, the Personnel Director, the City Attorney for labor relations, the Aldermanic Salary Committee and myself.

The Employee Relations Committee will meet periodically to discuss wages, benefits, working conditions, productivity, work rules and inequities within the existing pay and job classifications.

City employees, union and non-union, must have the opportunity to participate in decisions that affect their jobs. It has been shown that employee involvement can result in improved morale, better working conditions, efficiency and savings to the taxpayers. I am excited and optimistic about the Committee's work.

VOLUNTEERS WIN NATIONAL AWARD

Burlington raised its head high in August of 1982 when the U.S. Conference on Mayors and the Xerox Corporation selected Burlington as one of thirteen cities in the U.S. to receive national recognition for "Volunteerism."

The special recognition focused on task forces, formed by Mayor Sanders, which worked within the community on government cost control, taxation, the arts, youth, women and the elderly. It must be gratifying to the volunteers that their time and effort have received both local and national attention.

TAX REFORM

Local tax reform and reduction of our dependence on the property tax has been one of my top priorities. A special Legislative Summer Study Committee, commissioned by the Vermont House to examine the problems of local government, met in Burlington on Sept. 21. My administration presented to the Committee a

Lending a Hand

We are proud of the increasing number of Burlington residents who are volunteering in beneficial city projects.* Operation Snowshovel, tax-mapping, and programs for the elderly and youth are among the current projects.

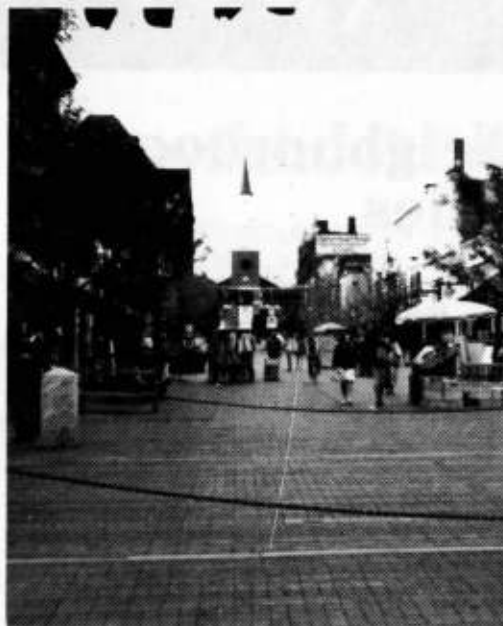
If you would like to volunteer for these and other projects, contact Ginny at 862-1377. Help is needed and appreciated.

*Ginny Winn, our new full-time coordinator, is assisting in these efforts.

BARGE CANAL

As you are aware, the Pine Street Barge Canal is one of the major environmental problems in our City. Serious questions exist concerning its potential impact on nearby residents, water quality, and the construction of the Southern Connector.

Steven Goodkind, City Health Officer, is involved in a careful evaluation of all technical data and proposed solutions to guarantee maximum protection of the City's health and safety.



report on Burlington's financial situation and future revenue needs entitled "Seven Myths About the City of Burlington". The report recommends a variety of proposals for tax reform and property tax relief including state aid to municipalities.

We have recently met with managers from surrounding towns and cities, and have agreed to work cooperatively on many of these proposals with the Vermont League of Cities and Towns. We will be working with the League to present local tax reform bills during the 1983 Legislative session.

Sidewalk Plows on Order

My office has worked with the Street and Planning Departments to generate additional revenue of \$100,000 this year to the Street Department for capital fund expenditures.

Following the recent approval of my budget request by the Board of Aldermen, the Street Department has ordered five new sidewalk plows which should be delivered in time for the first snowfall.

GUIDE TO CITY SERVICES

How do you obtain a copy of a birth certificate? What needs to be done to get a parade permit? Perhaps you have a question about a traffic signal or want to know how to get a dangerous sidewalk repaired. Where do you go to get results? Whom do you ask? If these or similar questions have presented you with a stumbling block, don't despair. Answers will soon be forthcoming from City Hall.

The City Clerk's Office is working on a GUIDE TO CITY SERVICES, designed to answer such difficult questions. The GUIDE will help direct individuals to the appropriate office or person to get the answers they need. We look forward to the GUIDE'S publication and hope that everyone will take advantage of its timely information.

In Need of Help

If you are in need of emergency housing, housing relocation, advice on social service agencies, or need to talk to someone about a problem, then Richard Sartelle is available to help. His office is located on the third floor of City Hall. Office hours are 10 a.m.-12 a.m. Monday-Wednesday-Friday. Feel free to stop in, or you can call him at 862-4109, 864-6466.



Whistlestop

The Mayor's Council on Women, and the Police Department will be promoting "Whistlestop," a neighborhood safety program that has nationwide support in more than one hundred communities. The program encourages citizen use of a whistle to summon Police response in case of emergency on a City street. Additional information can be obtained by calling Jackie Majoros at 658-6951.

VOTER REGISTRATION

Through the combined efforts of the City Clerk's Office and the League of Women Voters more than 2,000 new voters have been added to the City's checklist since July 2, 1982. In addition to this successful registration drive, the City Clerk's Office has updated the checklist to eliminate citizens no longer residing in Burlington and streamlined the information to maximize its usefulness. Our thanks to the many volunteers who made this drive so successful.

Please review the checklist to insure that the information is correct. If you find any errors or have any questions, please call the City Clerk's Office at 862-5719.



Administrator of Public Health and Safety, Steven Goodkind (left), inspects drilling site at barge canal.

Housing Inspections

This past year, more than 1200 apartment inspections were conducted by the Department of Public Health and Safety. Our minimum housing inspectors have worked with tenants and landlords to correct code violations that threaten health and safety. If you feel that your apartment does not meet city housing code standards, the minimum housing inspectors will answer your questions and inspect your apartment. Call 864-4211.

Dear Fellow Burlingtonian

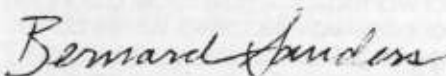
One of the major goals of this administration is to make local government accessible to the people, and to maintain an open dialogue between citizens and their elected representatives.

In line with our commitment to open government, I am pleased to send you our first newsletter highlighting issues that have faced the City, and how we have attempted to respond.

It is my intention to keep you informed as to what is happening in City Hall, and to encourage your suggestions and criticisms. In this way, we can all contribute to the better working of city government.

It is my firm conviction that if city government is to work, the people must play an active role.

Sincerely yours,



Bernard Sanders
Mayor

HELP EMPLOY OUR YOUTH

Part-time winter job opportunities are being sought by the City's Youth Office which has recently completed a successful summer youth job program. City residents who need baby sitters, snow shovelers, dog walkers, etc., can contact the Youth Office.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE PREVENTION

The Mayor's Youth Office has received two State grants to conduct a series of substance abuse prevention workshops in Burlington neighborhoods. In cooperation with Champlain Drug and Alcohol Services and ADAD, three seven-week workshops will be offered in the upcoming months. The first workshop is scheduled to start Oct. 26. Concerned parents can obtain more information on this program by calling Jane Driscoll at 658-5960.

After-School Program

A newly-developed program of activities, offering an exciting change from the after-school routine, is available to Burlington children. The program, an initiative of my office, in conjunction with the Department of Parks and Recreation, offers school children the opportunity to participate in art, sports, dance, music, drama, etc. Workshops, films, and vacation activities are also offered. Support, in the form of time, talent, or money, is being sought from parents and the business community. Persons interested in helping with this program can call 864-0123.

LOCATIONS AND TIMES

WHERE:	DAYS:	GRADES:	STARTS:	TIMES:
Memorial Auditorium	Mon-Fri	3-8	Oct. 18	2:30-4:30
Barnes Elem. School	Wed & Fri	3-6	Oct. 19	3:30-5:00
Wheeler Elem. School	Tues & Thurs	3-6	Oct. 19	3:30-5:00
Smith Elem. School	Tues & Wed	3-6	Oct. 19	3:30-5:00
Flynn Elem. School	Mon & Thurs	3-6	Oct. 18	3:30-5:00
Champlain Elem. School	NOT YET DETERMINED			

Art on Local Buses

CCTA and the Mayor's Council on the Arts are co-sponsoring "Token Images," an art display project. Photographs by local artists will be displayed on the panels of CCTA buses. Persons interested in submitting proposals, or ideas, can contact the Arts Council for more details.



MAYOR'S TASK FORCES AND COUNCILS

TITLE	CONTACT PERSON	TELEPHONE #
YOUTH	JANE DRISCOLL	658-5960
ELDERLY	MARY FRIES	862-9684
ARTS AND CULTURE	DOREEN KRAFT	862-9684
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	JONATHAN LEOPOLD	864-6887
ENERGY	ANDREW MAPLES	864-4039
WOMEN	JACKIE MAJOROS	658-6951

OFFICE HOURS:

8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. -
Monday-Friday

6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. -
Every Third Tuesday of the Month

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