

## **Teens Arrested:**

In mid-March a group of teens/young adults was arrested by the police at the intersection of S Drive and Queenston apparently in possession of drugs. This followed many reports of teens or young adults using S Drive – particularly the upper end of S Drive near A Drive and Queenston as a place to drink, do drugs, and engage in sexual relations. All of these activities are evidenced by the debris and trash left in the area and along S Drive. Some of the license plate numbers of vehicles belong to Charlestown residents – others may be guests of Charlestown residents – or complete strangers – who have no reason to loiter in our Community.

- These sorts of incidents have occurred in other areas of Charlestown – generally in the parking areas adjacent to the woods bordering Charlestown and have stopped (or moved) when residents have been alert and have **repeatedly** called the police.
- The number to call for suspicious, but not violent, behavior is the **Non-Emergency Dispatch Number: 703-691-2131**. Please give as much information as you can when you call – vehicle description, license plate number (if possible) and number and/or description of both the occupants and what they seem to be doing. Residents have reported that it seems to help if they tell the dispatcher that they will wait outside for the police in order to help direct them to the right area.
- Over time a number of police officers have told the board or individual residents that it is essential that residents report suspicious or illegal activity to the police when it occurs. The more reports the better!
- The board encourages all residents to be alert and to report any and all illegal or suspicious activity to the police – promptly. Do not assume that your neighbor will call – you need to do it! You may also follow up with an email report to the COA office – but only after you have called the police. When reporting an incident to the office – please indicate the date and time you called the police.
- Previous efforts to re-establish a Neighborhood Watch Program have failed due to lack of interest. If however, you are interested and willing to participate – please contact the office. If significant interest is expressed – we'll contact the Community Policing Officer and work toward establishing a Neighborhood Watch Program.