

Witchduck Civic League

“IT’S PICNIC TIME, AND YOU’RE ALL INVITED”

SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 2010 – 1:00 to 3:00 PM

“SAVE THE DATE”

Our “Annual Event” will be at the Colonial Education Center at The Lynnhaven House on Wishart Road. There will be games and other activities for our children. A Colonial Mariner with cannon will attend along with other colonial representatives. The Lynnhaven House and gift shop will be open and a large tent will be in place.

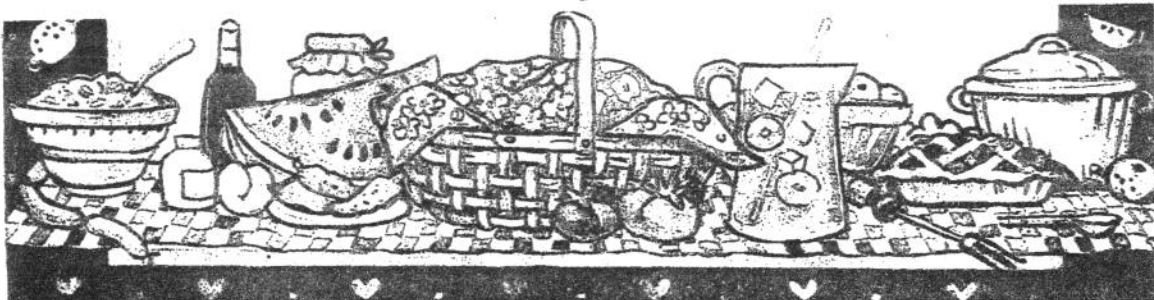
The Civic League will provide fried and baked chicken, bbq, beverages, and all the paper products. Each family should bring their choice of either a serving dish of salad, a hot or cold vegetable, or a dessert of your choice ... enough to serve 8 to 10 people.

Please contact Harriet Frenzel and let her know how many adults and children will attend. Call 363-1310 or email rfrenzell1@cox.net **RSVP BY FRIDAY, APRIL 23, 2010.**

NOMINATING COMMITTEE STATUS

The Nominating Committee has been unable to put together a slate of officers for election at our forthcoming picnic. The three members of the committee have been diligently soliciting possible candidates and have been unable to fill all the positions. Anyone interested in serving may call Marjorie Smallie at 464-4818 or Judi McArthur at 460-4055.

Under the circumstances, if necessary, the existing board of directors will determine a new model for the continuation of the organization.



OUR JANUARY MEETING

Mayor Will Sessoms was our guest speaker for the evening. He described in detail the budget challenges facing the city – possible tax and service fee increases, personnel layoffs, property tax assessments and issues with the Navy regarding Oceana.

He stated his commitment to transportation improvements; roads, high speed rail serving Hampton Roads and the concept for a meaningful light rail system for our region. The paramount issue was the budget. As you know, the city now has a total shortfall of \$111 million.

Sandra Nozzarella won the gift basket raffle. And Stan Graber won the flowers donated by Haygood Flowers & Gifts. Our thanks go to Ginny McConnon for her wonderful support.

The Mayor's presentation was informative and worthwhile. He undoubtedly has his hands full!

BYLAW AMMENDMENT – OFFICER'S TERM OF OFFICE

As you may remember, the civic league board of directors at their meeting on October 12, 2009 voted unanimously to amend the term of office for officers from three years to two years. In keeping with our bylaws the motion was read to the membership at our meeting on October 18, 2009

The motion was presented to the membership for a vote on January 18, 2010 and was formally approved by those present. Article III, paragraph two of the league's bylaws now reads: "The term of office for all officers shall be two years."

"SENTARA UPDATE"

Bon Secour has received approval from the Virginia state health commissioner to proceed with their plan to build a 300,000 square foot facility with 124 beds at an estimated cost of \$200 million at the existing DePaul Hospital site.

The current DePaul facility has 238 beds, 34 of the surplus beds will be used to enhance the new Princess Anne Hospital and increase their beds from 120 to 154. "The Princess Anne Hospital" is now in fact a Sentara – Bon Secour joint venture!

OUTSTANDING YARDS

The following individuals were recently recognized for their contributions to the beauty of our wonderful community.

Sharon and Ed Butts 4316 Alfriends Trail, Karen and John Schaffer, 4024 N. Witchduck Road and Patricia Volpetti, 4221 Dougherty Court. "Congratulations!"

SPRINGING FORWARD AT THE LYNNHAVEN HOUSE

Dear Witchduck Residents:

The beginnings of spring are finally here along with the promise of the renewed delights of the season. From my office window at the Lynnhaven Colonial Education Center, I watch as birds and squirrels busily prepare nests for the young that they will soon nurture. Trees and plants unfold fresh new leaves and flowers once again; bringing forth a transformation that is welcomed with enthusiasm and wonder.

The Lynnhaven site will feature several programs and events in the coming months that promise to offer something for everyone and provide a truly historical experience.

April 18th, Sunday, 2-4 p.m. Grand opening and dedication event for The Lynnhaven Colonial Education Center, ceremony at 2.00 p.m. followed by refreshments, music, living history, tours of the historic house and education center, and book signings.

April 21st, Wednesday, 1-4 p.m. Garden Club Day; tours of the historic Lynnhaven House.

April 22nd, Thursday, 2-4 p.m. Floral Arranging Class, 2-3 p.m.; Colonial Tea, 3-4 p.m., music by master musician, Marsha Wallace; call 460-7109 for reservations and information.

April 25th, Sunday, 1-3 p.m. Witchduck Civic League Picnic

May 15th, Saturday, 10 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Bayside History Trail Day

May 20th to 23rd and June 3 to 6th; “Much Ado About Nothing” presented by Shakespeare-by-the-Sea. Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and enjoy Shakespeare as the bard himself would have enjoyed it – on the “green” at the Lynnhaven Education Center. Refreshments will be available. Call 460-7530 for ticket information.

July 12th to 16th, Session I Summer Camp, **July 19th to 23rd** Session II Summer Camp; 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., \$240 per camper; 8-12 year olds; campers must provide their lunch – snacks and drinks will be provided. Call 460-7530 for more information.

You do not need to attend a special event to experience the historic Lynnhaven site. I invite you to stop by and explore the special charm of this historic treasure as you enjoy a leisurely tour around the grounds. Walk along the rustic wooden trail that surrounds the Colonial Education Center Building. Spend a few minutes appreciating the quiet of the family cemetery where Thelaball ancestors rest. Consider the unique architecture of the historic house and imagine the responsibility of raising a family and maintaining a middling farm plantation in 18th century Virginia. Be proud that you live in a neighborhood that holds and protects a precious part of our nation’s history. Please support the Lynnhaven house with your presence, for by doing so, you ensure that the historic site continues to be a vibrant and important part of our community.

Historically yours,

Starr Donlon, Museum Educator, City of Virginia Beach Historic Houses

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APRIL, 2010

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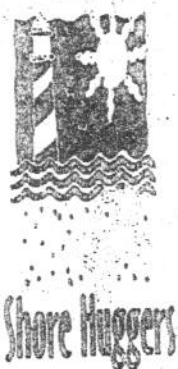
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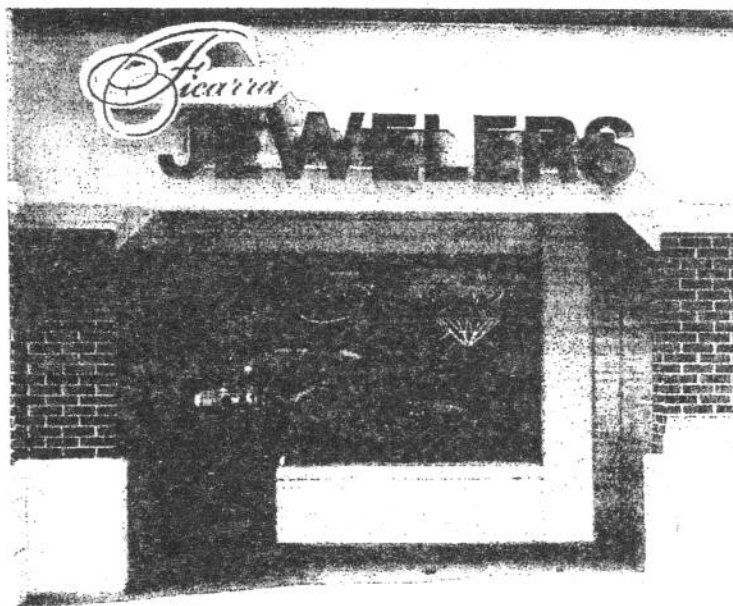
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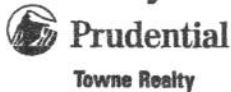


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APRIL, 2010



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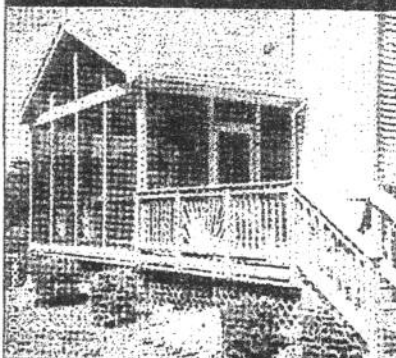
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WITCHDUCK CIVIC LEAGUE

THE ENTIRE WITCHDUCK CIVIC LEAGUE COMMUNITY HAS BEEN CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND THE DEDICATION CELEBRATION OF THE NEW *COLONIAL EDUCATION CENTER AT THE LYNNHAVEN HOUSE*. THE FORMAL INVITATION IS PRINTED BELOW. "LETS GO!"

The Southeastern Branch Preservation Virginia

and

The City of Virginia Beach

Cordially Invite You to an Open House

To Celebrate the Dedication of the

Colonial Education Center

at the Lynnhaven House

April 18, 2010, noon to 4:00 p.m.

Ceremony 2:00 p.m.

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SEE YOU AT THE PICNIC!

CIVIC LEAGUE MEMBERSHIP

As of this writing, 313 members of our community representing 173 households have joined the Witchduck Civic League for 2010. These numbers are running 20% behind a year ago. No Surprise! We had a dramatic surge in membership in 2009 primarily due to the availability of a new Witchduck Community Directory and the creation of our Internet pet registry program.

Regardless, we will be adding new members at our forthcoming picnic and throughout the next six months. Civic League dues are still just \$5.00 per adult household member and may be mailed to: Box 5606, Virginia Beach, VA 23471-0606.

Incidentally, during the month of May, we will be distributing 2009 community directories to new members who have not yet received a copy. See you at the picnic!

Chuck Plimpton

U. S. POSTAL SERVICE CHANGES

The Postal Service lost \$3.8 billion last year. As a result, the most significant change in service on their cost cutting agenda is the discontinuance of Saturday mail delivery.

Although all the post offices would be open on Saturdays; the Postal Service hopes the Congress will allow it to discontinue business and home deliveries on Saturday together with other cost cutting efforts which would eliminate the need for a postal rate increase.

The Independent Postal Regulatory Commission is reviewing the Postal Service plan before Congress considers a possible change in the postal law. The bottom line – no Saturday deliveries or a substantial increase in postage. Time will tell!

WALKING SAFELY

“Spring has finally arrived” and it’s time to publish our annual safe walking message.

Once again, we wish to strongly urge those who walk at night to stay off the streets. Walk or run in those areas of the community where sidewalks are available. For that matter, **be it day or night**, if sidewalks are available on either side of the street – use them for walking or running. **In short, stay out of the streets where sidewalks are available!**

Last, but not least: **IF YOU WALK OR RUN WHERE THERE ARE NO SIDEWALKS... DO SO FACING ON-COMING TRAFFIC SO YOU CAN MONITOR THE DRIVERS ACTIONS AND INSURE YOUR SAFETY.**

In summary... lets enjoy our beautiful neighborhood and walk and run safely. Have a great summer!

“CITY TRASH COLLECTION FEE”

In our January Newsletter we wrote about “ at least an \$8 trash collection fee.” It turned out that the City Manager recommended a new \$10 fee, which would increase \$2 per month each year until 2018. The new fee would produce approximately \$14 million the first year. Picking up garbage **costs** the city nearly \$31 million a year. A \$2 increase per month each year might make the expense go away by 2018. Since the majority of city council did not support the fee – the program was shelved.

As you know, Virginia Beach and Suffolk are the only two Southside Hampton Roads cities that do not charge for trash pickup.

Now that the proposed new tax increase is under fire – look for this option to surface. The positive aspect of this proposed fee is that “everyone shares the expense equally.” The 3-cent real estate tax increase **is not** shared proportionately - but probably only for the first year!

Frankly, with a \$111 million budget shortfall everything needs to be put on the table. Hopefully our elected officials will approach our needs objectively with an eye on the future and our current quality of life.

Chuck Plimpton

“OUR NATIONAL DEBT”

On January 28 the U.S. Senate voted to allow the government to go another \$1.9 trillion in debt. For your information our government **borrowes 40 cents** of every dollar it spends.

We are now on track for a national debt of \$14.3 trillion. We are sure you will be interested to learn that the debt amounts to **\$45,000** for every man, woman and child in the United States.

REPUBLICAN CONGRESSIONAL FORUM

A forum for the six Republican candidates running for the 2nd District Congressional nomination will be held on Tuesday, April 20, 2010 at Bayside Presbyterian Church located on Independence Blvd. at the corner of Ewell Road beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The Lake Smith Terrace/Haygood Point/ Governor Square Civic League will host the event in the church fellowship hall. A social period with refreshments will begin at 7:00 p.m. The Republican Primary will be held on June 8, to determine who the candidate for office will be in the November election.

This should be an interesting and informative gathering. With six candidates vying for the opportunity to represent their party, we will have a real opportunity to participate and hear each candidate’s agenda.

THE ENTIRE WITCHDUCK CIVIC LEAGUE COMMUNITY IS INVITED!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Witchduck Civic League

www.witchduck.org

**“OUR COMMUNITY PICNIC”
SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 2010, 1:00 TO 3:00 P.M.
“THE COLONIAL EDUCATION CENTER”
AT THE LYNNHAVEN HOUSE**

SAVE THE DATE - MARK YOUR CALANDAR

HURRICANE SEASON 2010

Notwithstanding the fact that our local “tornado season” runs from April to June...the hurricane season is just around the corner... June to November is the time frame!

According to the forecaster’s the 2010 hurricane season will be more active than last year’s and poses an abnormal threat to the east coast. Forecasters foresee 15 to 18 named storms, with as many as 7 making landfall, and 2 or 3 coming ashore as major systems. In summary 2010 has the chance of becoming a so-called “extreme season.” As a reminder: Tidewater tends to become most threatened during the August – September time frame.

The experts also tell us in the years ahead there will probably be fewer storms as the result of global warming. Unfortunately, the forecast is for fewer weak and moderate storms and **MORE** big damaging ones causing a possible 60% increase in property damage. We have been lucky for a number of years with no significant storm threats, however, **2010 IS NOT THE YEAR TO BECOME COMPLACENT.** Start planning now!

First, determine the feasibility of evacuating your family in the event of a major hurricane threat. Also, don’t forget, the entire I-64 corridor (both east and west bound roadways) will be converted to a one-way westbound evacuation route, if deemed appropriate by the Governor. **REMEMBER, THIS IS THE OFFICIAL EVACUATION ROUTE FOR RESIDENTS DEPARTING FROM THE WITCHDUCK CIVIC LEAGUE AREA.**

“The most important thing of all: A WRITTEN FAMILY PLAN!” It should include what the family, and each family member should do; where you will gather, and where you will go in the event of an emergency.

When you make your storm preparations – make sure you have enough bottled water, canned and packaged food for at least three days, for each family member. Don’t forget food and water for your pets! Also, make sure you have a battery-powered radio with extra batteries. A battery-powered fan might be worth considering. In any event – start getting your family prepared now!

SEE YOU AT THE PICNIC!