



# Newsletter

January 1993

## There's Trouble Right Here in River City...

The Civic League meeting, Thursday, January 21 @ 7:30 PM, will address a serious community matter concerning area young adults. Our community is experiencing real problems that affect all residents' quality of living.

Lt. Free of the 3rd Precinct will be addressing questions and concerns relating to gang activity confirmed within our neighborhoods. Hopefully, we as a group, can map out strategies to confront this

*"The welfare of our community pre-teens and young adults is at stake."*

issue. The ramifications of the problem has potential to grow uncontrollably *unless* we, you and I, take action. All members of this community are strongly urged to mark your calendar and remember the importance of being aware of the not-so-pleasant side of urban living.

The welfare of our community pre-teens and young adults is at stake. Parents and their children should attend this civic league meeting. The community needs to rally together in order to effectively combat this increasingly dangerous problem. It is real. *Families of our neighborhoods have already experienced some problems with gang activity.*

## A Time for a Change... The President's Farewell

At times the two years that I have served seemed like an eternity, but they were few and far between. Many binding forces make the city respond so slowly. That is understandable. But, I simply can't understand why 450 or so residents didn't pay membership dues. Whether or not someone rents or owns their home, I challenge anyone to demonstrate that the civic league does not serve them in some capacity.

Serving as president was selfish on my part. My personal life's philosophy is a commitment to family, self, work, religion and community (not necessarily in any particular order). I wouldn't feel "whole" without active involvement in each of these. I face the same daily problems as everyone else (and maybe more considering the last year). But, I take pride in making time to contribute to all of my life's commitments.

There were many good times that overwhelmed the bad. I take particular pleasure in having worked with dedicated officers, committee chairpersons and volunteers that served the civic league generously. Without their efforts, accomplishments would have been few and less significant. These individuals gave the time and energy that they could spare. Some gave many hours, some only a few. It doesn't matter how many. They gave of themselves and I thank each and every one of them for their dedication.

What did we accomplish? The community spirit demonstrated during the "Battle of the Dam" says it all. Over 650 persons signed a petition to stop a developer from ruining the ambiance of the natural setting of the park, lake and marsh and jeopardizing the safety of children playing at the park or visiting the recreation center. Nearly \$700 was raised through a volunteer fund raiser to develop a recreational greenway over the dam. Though not completed, our efforts are continuing (see related article). We

compiled, automated and published our community directory. This took many volunteer hours. We have progressed toward federal, state and city tax exemption (see related article). Our "Median Watch" became part of the city's "Adopt-a-Street" program. We have continued sponsoring social functions and added the children's Halloween Walk and family Christmas Carolling.

Many of these accomplishments were not met without having to cross a few obstacles. However, the civic league continually demonstrates itself to be self-helping and the city tends to assist those that do. We prosper within our available means and only seek the city's assistance when necessary. The city's officials and staff are well aware of the depth of our involvement and appreciate the work that we do.

I wish the best for all in the upcoming year. The hope that I carry with me out of office is that everyone takes a little more interest in his/her immediate community.



## Lake Meadow Greenway Update

Formal requests have been made to the city for 1) the Parks Division to assume maintenance responsibilities for the dam area and 2) the construction of a bikeway and pedestrian walkway over the existing dam extending between the Pembroke Boulevard and Cheswick Lane cul-del-sacs. The request for an overhead street light at the Pembroke Blvd. cul-de-sac has pretty much made a 360 degree circuit. The only way that our request will be acted upon is if the city does not delete citizen street light request funds in the 1993 fiscal budget. This means that we must contact all council representatives, the director of public utilities and the city manager. The new officers should draft letters immediately and let our position be understood completely - allocate the necessary funds for citizen street light requests. These requests have been cut annually from the Traffic Engineers's budget for the last two years!

## Tax Exemption Status

On August 11, 1992, the civic league was informed that it did not have federal tax exempt status with the IRS. The league had been filing for years as if it was. A formal application was filed on October 26, 1992.

*On December 22, 1992, the IRS officially determined that the civic league was exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(a) of the Code as a 501(c)(4) organization.* A meeting will be held with both the civic league and recreation center treasurers to review the legal requirements of our exemption and to organize a standard operating procedure for annual filings.

On December 15, *City Council unanimously passed a resolution supporting tax exemption of the civic league's owned real and personal property.* It is expected that the General Assembly will pass the necessary legislation within the next few months. This effort was endorsed by the Council of Civic Organizations and faithfully supported by our district Delegate Leo Wardrup. This will result in annual savings of almost \$700 in property taxes most of which is paid by the Recreation Center membership.

## Pool Pavilion

Woodland Building submitted a status sheet stating that \$3258.23 has been credited towards the \$4850 cost of building the pavilion. Therefore, we are approximately \$1600 short of our goal. Without another \$16,000 worth of work (10% credited towards pavilion) conducted by Woodland in this area the pavilion won't be built. The status sheet had a list of payments received for work done in this area. However, we can't be sure that all work done in this area was credited without knowing the names. If you want to be sure that your contract work was credited towards the pavilion, you may contact Steve Hawthorne (671-1026).

## Recreation Center News

Plans for enhancing the pool area are taking shape. The undercoat for the new paint has been applied to the front of the building and there is new landscaping - **COURTESY OF THE GARDEN CLUB!** New signs are being made and will be hung this spring.

The new "look" and the many innovations planned by the Pool Board should make our neighborhood recreation center very inviting and enjoyable!

Speaking of "inviting" we would like to remind you that joining the pool is easier than ever for the upcoming season using our off-season LAYAWAY plan. NEW MEMBERS can use this plan and pay their initiation fee in installments as well. When the summer comes you will be able to enjoy -- a pool with slide and diving board, relaxing poolside in the sun OR shade, playing horseshoes or other games on the grounds, cookouts, special family activities...

Dues for summer 1993 are \$240 for family and \$120 for individual; these can be paid in monthly installments through June (\$40 or \$20/month starting in January). Discount rates--\$216 family and \$108 individual--are offered for dues paid in full by April 30.

Just call Steve Hawthorne (671-1026), Carol Gurioli (497-5887) or Pam Cruze (490-2279) for more information. If you have joined in previous years, you can mail your first check to the pool. The address is:

Pembroke Meadows Recreation Center  
P.O. Box 68276  
Virginia Beach, VA 23455.

## Lifeguards - WSI's Are Needed

Our neighborhood pool will be giving preference to guards with Water Safety Instructor certification. Classes for this are being offered through the Virginia Beach Department of Parks and Recreation.

If you are interested in employment at our pool this summer, please call Pam Cruze (490-2279).

## Neighborhood Heros

Special thanks to the following neighbors who picked up litter along the Pembroke Blvd. median strip:

Dec. 1-15	Jim Furlough
Dec. 16-31	Ray Zmuda
Jan. 1-15	Dick Cook
Jan. 16-31	Bob Finley
Feb. 1-15	Ken Tucker
Feb. 16-28	Karen & Will Hamilton

## New Neighbors!

The Civic League cordially welcomes the following new neighbors and friends to the turf:

**Craigg & Beverly Woodman**  
4421 Cambria Street

**Don & Linda White**  
4416 Cambria Street



## School Labels

Pembroke Meadows Elementary School could use your help! We participate in Cambells Labels for Education to purchase items for those the school couldn't afford.

The special labels we are looking for are:

Franco American Spaghetti's (all types)  
Swanson's Breakfast Blasts & Fun Feast Meals  
Swanson's great Start Breakfasts (all types)  
Mrs. Paul's products  
Le Menu products  
New American Cuisine Dinners  
Swanson Frozen Food (all products)

We have until 15 Feb to get these in for extra bonus labels. We always welcome any Cambells labels. Thank you for your support.

Please send labels to :

**Mrs. Marcy Zmuda**  
4504 Cambria St.  
or  
the school.

**TUTORING**



PHONICS  
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Loretta M. Watkins  
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497-2130

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- ✓ References upon request.
- ✓ Home Demonstration (mine) on request.
- ✓ Glass and strips installed at extra cost.

We can also take care of your house painting and staining work. Seventeen years contracting experience in Virginia Beach.

**CALL: WALTER GRAY**  
**499 - 5609**

**1993 CIVIC LEAGUE BOARD OFFICERS**

President	(vacant)	
1st VP	Henry Dean	499-6576
2nd VP	Jake Froehlich	499-6430
Rec Ctr Dir.	Carol Gurioli	497-5887
Treasurer	Ashley Wilson	497-7134
Membership	Patsy Dixon	497-8707
Rec. Secty.	Anna Schweitzer	473-1886
Cor. Secty.	Loretta Watkins	497-2130

Note: Standing committee chairpersons will be assigned at next general meeting.



**MIKE DUNN**  
MANAGER

MONDAY - THURSDAY  
11:00 - 2:15 4:00 - 8:00  
FRIDAY & SATURDAY  
11:00 - 2:15 4:00 - 8:30  
SUNDAY  
11:00 - 8:00

**CAFETERIA**  
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- |                                     |     |                                 |
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| <b>Chem-Dry</b>                     | vs. | <b>Steam/Shampoo</b>            |
| • Dries in 1-2 hours                |     | • Takes days to dry             |
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| • Removes most pet stains           |     | • Old stains reappear           |
| • No shrinkage or mildew            |     | • May permanently damage carpet |
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captains bed, \$50,  
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NEEDED:  
Do you have a spare **LAWNMOWER?** It would be great to have one for mowing the pool grounds. Can you help???  
497-5887.

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