

PO Box 68052, zip 23471

SEPTEMBER 2000

CIVIC LEAGUE OF PEMBROKE MEADOWS, INC.

**Pembroke Meadows, Pembroke Shores,
and Pembroke Shores Townhomes**

CIVIC LEAGUE NEWSLETTER



Independence Blvd Update Although the current phase of the Independence Blvd widening project was delayed almost a year from its original schedule because of state funding delays, the project is now well underway and planned for completion late next spring.

Our civic league representatives have been "watchdogging" the total boulevard widening project since 1995 when the Jeanne St to Pembroke Blvd phase commenced; and we were instrumental in recommending and planning the "parkway" landscaping with elimination of houses along that stretch, the five retention ponds which filter trash and debris from our lakes, and the additional exit lane, crosswalks, and light system at Pembroke Blvd.

Last year at a civic league meeting with the current phase Project Manager, we were assured that our previous request for a dedicated left-turn lane and signal would be added to the Witchduck Rd intersection to facilitate traffic turning left/southbound onto Independence. That would significantly reduce the Cathedral Drive traffic cutting from Witchduck to Pembroke Blvd. We were also informed that all of the widening in the current phase would come from reduction of the median strip, i.e., no sidewalk, parking lots, etc. would be disrupted. We expressed our collective dismay at the necessary loss of most of the trees and plantings from the median between Pembroke Blvd and Copperfield Rd near McDonald's Garden Center but we were promised that new plantings would be made and that some of the beautiful live oaks could be saved.

Unfortunately, the Project Manger called last month to report that none of the trees could be saved because of excessive root loss and safety considerations and asked to meet with us to discuss landscaping alternatives. At that meeting, arranged with other community/business reps, the City planners have promised that 77 new trees (young live oaks, crepe myrtles, American hollies, and magnolias) and many decorative shrubs would be planted in the narrowed median strips. In median sections too narrow for plantings, attractive tapered brick medians would be constructed. During the construction period, some of the future median strip areas will be temporarily asphalted over to facilitate routing traffic through the roadwork areas. For further information call Jim Willenbrink, 497-0700.

Jim Willenbrink

Bayside Library and Police Station Responsive to citizen input at two public hearings last year proposed by our civic league, City Council has decided to keep the Bayside Library and Police Station at their current locations on Independence Blvd. A new and modernized library building will be constructed as well as a new police station in separate nearby buildings on that site. To accomplish this without any disruption in current library or police operations, the City plans to acquire additional land from Bayside Sentara Hospital, thus allowing the present library and police buildings to remain in operation until the new buildings are ready for occupancy. To provide better access to the new facilities, a new entrance/exit road will be constructed from Honeygrove Rd. The present access/egress will remain; however, the median cut there across Independence will be closed

eliminating access/exit to southbound traffic. Best estimate of completion of the project is Year 2003. For further information call Jim Willenbrink, 497-0700.

Jim Willenbrink

Trash Talk As fall approaches and leaves begin to fall, it becomes even more important that residents help in keeping our streets and gutters clean. Remember, unless we help in front of our own homes, all of the leaves, debris and trash in our streets/gutters will eventually wash into and pollute our lakes and waterways. So, PLEASE occasionally sweep your street area, and certainly DO NOT sweep, blow, or discard leaves, grass clippings, or any other debris/trash onto our streets. This action is AGAINST THE LAW as in dumping anything into our lakes, waterways, and storm sewers!

The mayor has promised and followed through to purchase an additional street sweeper. This expensive piece of equipment will be used in our neighborhood on an occasional basis. Ms. Oberndorf responded to a specific request by our civic league. Let us support our mayor in making our area a shining example of neatness and cleanliness. We are also indebted to our City Councilor, Louis Jones, who has supported us on this and many other important concerns. If we will sweep leaves and debris in the coming months, the street sweeper will be much more effective.

Once again, our committee must inform select perpetrators that commercial vehicles more than 20 feet in length can be parked on our streets for service, but parking these vehicles for an extended length of time is against the Zoning Ordinance.

Other eyesores that are on personal property have been brought to the attention of this committee. We have a series of diplomatic steps that are being taken before we have to take people to court. Of course, we want to remain a friendly, neighborly committee and sincerely wish that a court squabble does not become necessary. We must realize that our actions do affect our neighborhoods. This can be positive and negative. Let's practice the Golden Rule!

The gazebo needs another coat of paint. The rainy season is almost over. I am "throwing out the gauntlet" to our young people who did such a splendid job on our first go around. I have some new and improved jokes for you! Please call me and indicate your enthusiasm and the best date to paint.

It is time to sign up for the two- week session of median strip tidying up. It only takes a few minutes and the stretching will do you good. We have Clera Hall (Sept 1-15) and Ashley Wilson (Sept 16-30) . We need other volunteers. Please call me (497-7917) or sign up at the civic league meeting on Sept 21. The Building and Grounds Committee will have its next meeting on Thursday Sept 28 at the home of Sid Sward, 625 Bishop Dr. It will start promptly at 7:30 PM. Those who wish to join this working committee, contact me immediately or sooner!

Sid Sward, Chairman, Building & Grounds Committee

New Neighbors We have new neighbors at 800 St Dennis. Welcome R Rose Newsome and Judy Newsome, Nursing Administrator. Help us with information on any new neighbors--we want to welcome all! Thanks
Connie's Comments

Neighbor to Neighbor It has come to my attention that some of us are not looking out for our neighbors when we do not trim our bushes and low hanging branches that protrude onto the city sidewalks. As these protrusions may be at eye level for our children in strollers and on trikes and our handicapped neighbors in wheelchairs, the danger is obvious. In fact a resident of Old Donation Farm was making his usual routine ride through the neighborhood on his motorized wheelchair when he had to swerve off the sidewalk to avoid hitting a branch protruding at his eye level. The wheelchair overturned onto the pavement. Fortunately, he was not seriously hurt and someone soon came to his aid. If you come across low hanging branches when you are out walking, ask the resident to remove

them or carry a pair of clippers with you like I do. You could also call the City Landscape Services at 427-4461. We should all be able to travel our sidewalks safely.

Belinda Nash

Pembroke Meadows Garden Club meets on the second Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM in our homes. For information please call 473-8258 or 497-0700. **Sept 14th program - Master Garden. Oct 12 program - Floral Design, Nov 9th program - Stamping Techniques by Michaels Craft Store.**

GARDEN CLUB GREENS SALE The garden club is once again sponsoring the holiday greens sale. We have listed some new and exciting items for your enjoyment. The order form is included on a separate sheet. Please note deadlines. We appreciate your patronage so that we can continue to beautify our community.

Civil League Meeting Sept 21 at 7:30 PM ***I SAID IT AUGUST, BUT I WILL SAY IT AGAIN***--Dr. Brian Hastings of the Independence Veterinary Hospital will present the Sept program. Dr. Hastings will give us some tips on the Do and Don't and What and What For about our pets. Be sure to attend this first meeting of the fall season and learn more about caring for your pet's health.

EVERY PATH HATH A PUDDLE. George Herbert--Unfortunately I floundered in confusion in the puddle in my path. There was a glitch in the number of newsletters printed in August and some people did not receive a newsletter. My apologies! Therefore, we are providing the August newsletter as an insert for those areas missed last month.

Peggy Caverly

FREE MOVIE PASSES! Cinema Café has graciously donated **free** movie passes to be given out to all civic league volunteer workers and as door prizes to members at **every** civic league meeting.
THANKS CINEMA CAFÉ!

POOL NEWS It is hard to believe that another summer has come to an end and with it the season closing of our neighborhood pool. Although cloudy skies and rain occupied more than its normal share of the season's weather, there were plenty of sunny days to bask in the sun and cool in the pool. The pool had a great opening day, May 27. A new grill donated by the Horvatic family was fired up for its inaugural use the following Sunday; many cookouts followed.

The pool staff instructed five sets of two-week long swim lessons. Some older kids volunteered to assist the lifeguards with the lessons, so the instructor to student ratio was as low as I have ever seen it. Some members also arranged for private lessons with the staff.

The swim team, as usual, had a great season. Although the regular meets won-loss record is 2-3, two of those losses were very close. The crowning achievement was beating the Little Neck team for the first time since 1986. The co-coaches for the swim team were sisters Tara (now Hoover) and Cory Orem. Both grew up in the neighborhood and swam for years on our team. It was great to have them back. They plan to return next summer.

As planned, well, nearly as planned, other social activities were presented at the pool beyond the cookouts, lessons and swim team. There were three youth nights, four family nights, one adult social (Parrot Head night) and Independence Day games sponsored by the pool. Individual members held birthday parties, nighttime private parties and Sunday brunches at the pool.

The pool is just one of the many amenities and activities sponsored by the civic league that adds toward making this a wonderful neighborhood. There is a lot of work that goes into maintaining and running the pool. Other than the lifeguard staff, most of the work is done on a voluntary basis as

a labor of love. From the time the pool closes after Labor Day, until it opens on Memorial Day weekend, a board of ten members meets, plans, arranges and works to ready the pool. The **existing board** is Donna Price, Dandy Daley, Mary Anne Kuehne, Steve Knott, Karen Joseph, Carol Moore, Vicki Vaughan, Bob Barry, Kevin O'Donnell and Jim Price. The **new board** is Leslie Pancho, Sandy Daley, Mary Anne Kuehne, Steve Knott, Marcy Zmuda, Carol Moore, Vicki Vaughan, Bob Barry, Kevin O'Donnell and Donna Price. A lot of "corporate knowledge" will remain with the board.

Others also worked above and beyond. Starting with the Spring Fling last April, a contingent of neighbors, over 40 strong, worked to beautify the park, dam pathway, median and pool grounds. A few repainted the gazebo, which welcomes you as you enter the neighborhood. The pool grounds were spruced up as well. A cookout in the park followed the clean up. This was as much fun as the potluck dinner--the only thing missing was accordion music. Thanks to all those who helped: Bob Barry, Curtis Brown, Sandy and Steve Daley, Jimmy Eddings, Bess and Joe Ficarra, Linda Hilley, Karen and Marcus Joseph, Tony Kingry, Steve and Kristen Knott, Ron Lampkins, Derrick Long, Doug and Scott McGibbon, Mykale and Gaelan Mong, Carol, Mike, David and Stephen Moore, Belinda Nash, Diana and Katie O'Donnell, Joe Oski, Anthony Paternite, Lauren Pacallo, Donna, Carl, Dale and Jim Price, Don Sanders, Sid Sward, Vicki Vaughan, George Watkins, Jeannette, Jim and Grace Ann Willenbrink, Mike Zmuda.

Others have kept the pool running well with their help. Lee Haddock installed a hot water heater for the kitchen. The Joseph family kept the grounds looking good throughout the summer. Mike Dougherty repaired some of the concrete deck. Mike Moore repaired the garage door to the vending/phone room. There are probably others I've left out. It is truly a collective effort for which many are owed thanks. Included in this category are those first residents who 31 years ago got together and planned, financed and brought to fruition the pool we enjoy to this day. **Thanks to all!**

Tenth Annual Halloween Walk It is that time of year again to get the costumes out of the attic for this year's tenth annual Halloween Walk. As most of you know, the Pembroke Meadows/Shores Civil League sponsors the Halloween Walk. It is a great day for the kids and grownups alike to use the costumes more than once each year. It also gives our neighborhood a chance to get together.

Last year the count was around 500 people on route and at the park. We arranged to get enough candy donated to make up candy bags for all of the children. The parents brought enough apple juice and cookies for the group to share. Ferry Plantation House supplied cups, napkins, and pop corn. Cinema Café gave us movie passes as part of the game prizes. The Independence Middle School Band will be out in full form leading the parade again this year.

Make sure to mark the calendar for Saturday, October 28. Three PM will be the starting time at the medical plaza parking lot at the corner of Whitechapel and Pembroke Blvd.

This gathering has been an ongoing event since the 1980s. It was first known as the Ghost Run of the Meadows (Jim Willenbrink describes it as a one-mile fun run) that ended up at the park for games. Later in 1990, Loretta Watkins started the Halloween Walk and described it as the Macy's Parade, the Rose Bowl and a little bit of heaven all rolled up in one. In 1995 yours truly, Belinda Nash, pitched in to keep the ball rolling so that our youngsters would get to take part in a parade that we seldom see in small communities anymore.

It takes a lot of combined effort and again we need helpers to make it happen. If you have decorations that can be put up and taken down again at the park--some of the ones that are still used are ten years old--we need a few extras to borrow for that Saturday. Apple juice and cookies can be dropped off at our house, 801 Cathedral Drive, anytime and I will take it to the park that day. We need supervisors for the games. If you can help in any way, please give me a call at 490-2504.

This only happens when all of us pull together. This is what childhood memories are made of, and it doesn't cost anything to participate. Lets make this year another one to remember. Give me a call and we will see you all Saturday, October 28 at 3:00 PM. I will be Grace Sherwood, the Witch of Pungo, leading off the parade again. Rain date is Sunday, October 29 at 3:00 PM.

Belinda Nash

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Second VP	Peggy Caverly	490-0925
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Corres. Sec.	Loretta Watkins	497-2130
Mem. Chrman.	John Shaedel	499-0678
Rec. Sec.	Betty Bloxom	499-1929
Pool Director	Donna Price	499-5115

COMMITTEES

Newsletter	Charlotte Roy	499-5234
Newsletter Ads	Clera Hall	473-8258
Directory/Ads	John Shaedel	499-0687
Bldg/Grounds	Sid Sward	497-7917
Pool Phone		497-9874
Welcoming		
Meadows	Stephanie Neihart	456-5795
Shores	Clera Hall	473-8258
Townhomes	Connie Lue	473-0144
Lakes/Waterways		
Chairman	Jim Willenbrink	
L. Pembroke	Jim Willenbrink	497-0700
L. Meadows	Hal Kuehne	497-8690
Lynnhaven	Al Galvani	499-6670
Block Security		
Meadows	Stephanie Neihart	456-5795
Shores	Bob/Marge Brotman	497-0565
Townhomes	Linda Jarman	671-7266
Pet Lost and Found/Pet Registry		
Shores	Belinda Nash	490-2504
Meadows	Jim Willenbrink	497-0700

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