# CIVIC LEAGUE OF PEMBROKE MEADOWS, INC.

Pembroke Meadows, Pembroke Shores, and Pembroke Shores Townhomes

**CIVIC LEAGUE NEWSLETTER** 



#### Feb 2015

**Inside:** 

President's Ponderings

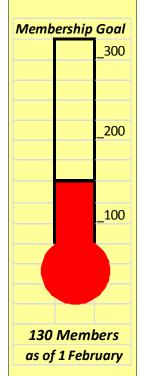
Neighborhood Watch Changes

**Real Estate** 

Plantation Living

**Tax Help** 

2015 Budget



# Next Civic League Meeting Neighborhood Pot-Luck Dinner Pembroke Meadows Elementary School February 19th, 2015 @ 6 pm

Come join us at the annual civic league pot luck dinner. For this favorite civic league event, **we begin at 6:00 p.m.** in the cafeteria of the Pembroke Meadows Elementary School. Your civic league will provide the plates, plastic flatware, napkins, drinks and neighbors! We ask that you bring a food dish to share. You will also be able to pay your 2015 Civic League dues when you arrive.

Our motto for this evening is "all eating - no meeting"

To share our bounty and good fortune, we ask that you bring a canned or nonperishable food item to donate to the local Food Bank.

If you have a new neighbor, please encourage them to attend!

# **POTLUCK + GOOD LUCK = \$\$**

This year's Door Prizes will include gift cards to a number of our local establishments. To receive a door prize ticket, you must have paid your 2015 Civic League dues (still a mere \$10 and payable at the door) and participate in the pot luck by bringing a dish to share. Even if you don't win, you and your family will be all the richer for having spent time getting to know your neighbors. Plus you'll have the opportunity to sample some great culinary creations.

#### Coming Up Next Month

Linda White will be our guest speaker to give an overview and answer questions about the Fall Proof program.





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AT HAYGOOD SHOPPING CENTER



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\$135 One year (9 issues) – Business Card
\$100 Insert (Advertiser provides the insert)
\$ 60 One time – ¼ Page



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### **Median Cleanup**

Feb 15 - 28	
Mar 1 - 15	Ĥ
Mar 16 – 31	t.
Apr.1 - 15	

To add your name here, call Mike Moore at 557-0328

Volunteers keep our entryway clean and nice looking, won't you please call him to add your name?

# Lost Pet Program Update

Gerry Richter reported at last month's meeting that the Lost Pet Program handles about 10 dogs a month and has been very successful in returning these pets to their owners thanks to the pet ID.

Thank you to all who have placed appropriate identification on your dogs, it makes the job of the Lost Pet Program so much easier!



# Safe Pet Identification

Embroidered collars with the Pets name and your phone number with area code is the safest means of quick identification. These collars can be ordered on line (I like the ones from LUCKYPET.COM) or purchased locally from Care-a-Lot store located on Diamond Springs Road. They cost less than \$20. There are no tags to catch dew claws, nothing to fall off and lose and it can be washed if needed. You can select the color, closer (buckle or clip) and size. It sure makes it easier for your pet to be returned to you.



#### Dear Neighbors:

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Our January civic league meeting was very productive. The members present passed your Civic League's 2015 budget and the newly elected board was sworn in. As in years past, funding was approved for some of our neighborhood's favorite activities including the Easter Egg Hunt, the Halloween Walk, National Night Out festivities, supplemental median mowing and support of our local Cub Scout pack and pool. Don't forget to take the time to write that \$10.00 check for your annual civic league dues. It is money well spent.

Speaking of the median strip, we are in desperate need of volunteers to raise their hands, send emails, call, etc. to take on a 2-week stint of median strip cleaning duty. We are not asking you to clean every speck of trash or cigarette butt, we are, though, hoping you'll stop and clean the large items from our entryway. Speaking of the entryway, please take a moment to thank Joe Lang, Mike Moore and George Watkins for their efforts maintaining the flags, flagpole and lights over the past years.

This month our civic league meeting is the annual pot luck event starting at 6 PM. I have been asked to ask each of you who plan to cook an item to bring, to please consider labeling it if it contains foods that others are commonly allergic to, i.e., peanuts, nuts, mushrooms, etc. Please bring a nonperishable food item for donation to the local food bank. We will be drawing names for a few local gift certificates for paid members, one entry per family. This is always a fun night and a nice time to reconnect with our neighbors.

As we are still in the middle of winter I remind you to be careful around the lake, the bank is slippery and the water is cold. My young lab found that out this week when he fell into the lake and I had to pull him out! If you have never joined our neighborhood pool, please consider it this year. My family and I have enjoyed our membership each summer at the "pool". I am hoping this year that each of you will seriously considering joining us. It truly is the best kept secret in our area.

- Kate Nixon



# Are your savings earning what they should?

Dave Frohwitter Financial Advisor 525 S Independence Blvd Suite 110 Virginia Beech, VA 23452 757-493-7628 www.edwardjones.com

## Edward Jones

### 2015 PMCL membership reaches 130

WOW! What a great group of punctual neighbors. This past month 130 families paid \$10 and voluntarily joined the civic league. We have 650 houses in our neighborhood and usually average 230 members. We are over halfway to our goal. Please consider joining to support our neighborhood. Mike Moore – Treasurer

### Ladies Lunch Group



The Ladies Lunch Group February meeting will be at Smokey Bones Restaurant in Town Center/Pembroke Mall at 12:00PM on Thursday, February 26th.

Come enjoy the comradery with us!

Please RSVP or request a ride by calling:

Joy Guthrie 473-9284

### **\$ TAX Corner (Free Help)**

#### Virginia Offers Free Tax Filing Online:

The Virginia Free File program offers taxpayers simple and free options for filing both state and federal tax returns.

Approximately 70% of all Virginia taxpayers are eligible to use the brand-name tax software products offered through Free File to prepare and electronically file their federal *and* state income tax returns online for **free**. If your income is less than \$50,000 then you are probably eligible. To see if you are eligible, go to <u>www.tax.virginia.gov</u>





### Our Real Estate Market...

The 30 year fixed mortgage rate was 3.87% at the close of 2014, according to Freddie Mac. This rate is very close to the historic lows in the spring of 2013. However, the Mortgage Bankers Association projects mortgage rates to be about 5% by the end of 2015.

#### What's New Here In OUR Real Estate Market? Currently for Sale

currently for Sale					
745 Abbey	5 BR	2 ½ BA	325,000		
645 Cavendish	3 BR	2 BA	222,000		
600 Whitechapel	3 BR	2 BA	289,900		
4129 Cheswick Ln	3 BR	2 ½ BA	819,000		
4121 Cheswick Ln	4 BR	4 BA	873,000		
4257 Cheswick Ln	3 BR	3 BA	459,000		
847 Cathedral	3 BR	2 ½ BA	214,900		
Homes Under Contract					
608 Cambria	4 BR	2 ½ BA	254,650		
4124 Cheswick	4 BR	3 ½ BA	520,000		
4328 Hudgins	5 BR	2 ½ BA	208,000		
741 Abbey	4 BR	2 ½ BA	269,900		
4400 Drury	4 BR	2 ½ BA	219,900		
612 Severn	3 BR	2 BA	270,000		

Sue Lentini~

## **Ferry Plantation House**

The house will be closed January-February for maintenance and restoration work. Please visit us on facebook- Ferry Plantation. Look for our reopening in March

We hope that each of you will consider becoming a member of Ferry Plantation House. The annual membership dues is only \$20. and is *Tax deductable*.

# Memberships help us keep this lovely home open.

In addition you will receive our quarterly newsletter with lots of information about history and this lovely treasure. Join today won't you.

#### **SOUTHERN PLANTATION LIVING**

A little local history to share with family, friends and neighbors from our friends at Ferry Plantation House

Did you ever dream of living on a **"Southern Plantation"**? In fact, **YOU DO!** The very land your home occupies was once part of **Ferry Plantation**. Therefore, if your children grew up here, they can claim to have once lived on a southern plantation. Oh the dreams (with a little southern charm and liberties added in for flavor) that very fact can impart.

An actual ferry service dating back to 1642 stopped here dropping off and picking up goods, people, animals, mail and packages. *Ferry Plantation* consisted of over 1200 acres. On this very land the second Princess Anne courthouse was built of wood and stood where Old Donation Church is located.

It was at this courthouse that **Grace Sherwood**, **aka "The Witch of Pungo"** was tried, convicted, ducked and subsequently imprisoned in 1706. Grace was the only witch to ever be tried by water in Virginia.

Thus the location of her ducking is how "Witchduck Road" got its name. **You are living on historic land.** 

The Third Princess Anne Courthouse and the first "brick" courthouse dates to 1735 and was in use until 1753. Its stock and pillory was a favored punishment back then. In 1830 it became the oldest portion of our current Ferry Plantation House when the house was rebuilt after a devastating fire. It still stands today.

Gerry Richter

### Pembroke Meadows Civic League 2015 Officers



President: Kate Nixon 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Donna Price 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Susan Frohwitter Treasurer: Mike Moore Secretary: Beverly Wilson (not available for photo)

### **POOL (PMRC) NEWS**

Applications for pool membership for 2015 will be included in the March newsletter. Please check out our page on the Civic League website (<u>www.pembrokemeadows.org</u>) for more information and for instructions on joining our Google Group.

We allow members to pay their dues in installments as long as the balance is paid in full before the pool opens. You may contact Kim Best at <u>kimberley\_best@yahoo.com</u> or 671-1810 if you would like to pursue this option.

-Chris Pascuzzi

### **Treasurers Report**

#### PMCL 2015 Budget

Members at the January meeting approved the 2015 budget. Here is a breakdown vs. our 2014 expenditures.

experience.	2014	2015
INCOME Donations	480	500
Dues	2080	2100
Newsletter Advertising	2020	1500
T-Mobile contract	17069	17500
Interest	4	5
Withdraw from Money Mkt	4 0	0
	0	Ū
TOTAL INCOME	21653	21605
EXPENDITURES		
Christmas Party	233	250
Beautification Comm	30	30
Cub Scout Pack	150	250
Easter Egg Hunt	130	150
Ferry Membership	100	200
Flag Replacements	238	350
Halloween Walk	181	200
Insurance	0	300
PMGC Support	160	150
Lynnhaven River Now	100	100
Median Upkeep	1600	1800
Median Utilities	555	600
NNO Pool Party	150	200
Newsletter Printing	1524	1700
PA Operation Graduation	100	200
Pool Improvements	7907	8000
Postal Box Rental	62	62
Pot Luck Dinner	173	175
Spring Fling/Cleanup	0	50
Supplies (office)	270	100
State Corp. Comm.	25	25
Pool Membership Support	6000	6000
VBCCO	25	25
Yard Sale	117	200
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	19830	21117
Deposit to Money Market	1823	488
ADJ. EXPENDITURES	21653	21605
Account balance as of 31 January:		\$21,806.91

#### New Crime Prevention Program for Our Neighborhood **Nextdoor.com**

The article below is from the Virginia **Beach Police Department Crime Prevention** Chronicle of Summer 2014. Our Pembroke Meadows community has already been activated on Nextdoor and it is a matter of getting the word out to all of our neighbors. This forum is a good place for keeping in touch and for our police department to provide community updates and safety bulletins directly to us. All you need to do is go to Nextdoor.com, enter your address and enter an email address. This will let vou register for our neighborhood and begin viewing information posted by other members. This allows for much faster communication of info as opposed to the old block captain-phone tree type system of Neighborhood Watch. Given that we also have some areas of the neighborhood that have not had a Block Captain for years, this will help us get around that problem.

### **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH + Nextdoor** = SUCCESS!

Over the past year, the Crime Prevention Unit has been sending out emails and making announcements about the merger of Neighborhood Watch with **Nextdoor.com** - so everyone should be familiar with this upcoming development. Changes can be scary, and sometimes not welcomed, but this is definitely a good one. No longer will Coordinators and Block Captains have to beat the pavement, knocking on doors, signing people up on paper; nor will they have to provide our office with a "recertification roster" each July.

The new process is simple: simply activate your community on **Nextdoor.com**, sign up as many households within your community as possible, and start communicating. It's that easy! Use the Crime & Safety tab for Neighborhood Watch posts, or create a new group on your community Nextdoor site called "Neighborhood Watch." We realize that not everyone has a computer, tablet or smartphone and will not be able to access the site. For those that are not able to use the site, a phone list will be maintained by the Neighborhood Watch Coordinator to disseminate important information. For those who would like to be on the phone contact list please contact Stephanie Neihart (Neighborhood Watch Coordinator for Pembroke Meadows) at 757-456-5795.

### **Volunteers Needed!**

Senior Advocate Ombudsman Volunteers Currently, Senior Services of Southeastern Virginia's Senior Advocate Ombudsman program advocates on behalf of residents living in 35 nursing and rehabilitation centers and 78 assisted living facilities in South Hampton Roads. With such a huge workload, the program is dependent on its numerous and well-trained volunteer corps. Presently, Senior Advocate Ombudsman supervisor, Willie Alston is recruiting new volunteers for all South Hampton Roads' cities.

The next three-day training class for Senior Advocate Ombudsman volunteers is scheduled for March 10, 11 and 18th., from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day, at Senior Services' main office, 6350 Center Drive, Bldg. 5, Norfolk 23502.

Those who are interested in becoming volunteers are asked to contact Willie Alston at (757) 461-9481, ext. 114 or <u>walston@ssseva.org</u> for more information.

#### POINTS OF CONTACT

Civic League Officers		
President	Kate Nixon	546-4004
First VP	Donna Price	499-5115
Second VP	Susan Frohwitter	460-4681
Recording & Corres. Sec.	Beverly Wilson	499-0723
Treasurer	Mike Moore	557-0328
Memb. Chrman	Cheryl Douglas	671-2241
Webmaster	Clif Furedy	490-5792
<u>Committees</u>		
Bldg/Grounds	Tim Roy	478-0580
Median Electrical	Mike Moore	557-0328
Median Flag	Joe Lang	497-2897
Block Security		
Meadows	Stephanie Neihart	456-5795
Shores	Bob/Marge Brotman	497-0565
Townhomes	Vacant	
Directory Chairman	Robert Westmont	473-1024
Lakes/Waterways Chairman	n: Jim Willenbrink	
Lake Pembroke	Jim Willenbrink	497-0700
Lake Meadows	Charlie Russ	497-5298
Lynnhaven	Jeff Brown	464-0183
Welcoming Committee Cha	ir: Clera Hall, Karen Roy, J	eanette Willenbrink
Meadows	Jim Price	499-5115
Shores	Lisa Dutko	473-1112
Townhomes	Liz Hayes	472-0283
Newsletter Editor	Carol Moore	557-0328
Newsletter Ads	Mike Moore	557-0328
Pet Lost & Found/Pet Regis	stry	
Shores and	Gerry Dashiell-Richter	497-5243
Meadows	Jim Willenbrink	497-0700
<b>Recreation Center (pool)</b>		
Director	Chris Pascuzzi	671-1850
Asst Director	Erin Strasburger	
Treasurer	Lori Hines	557-0101
Secretary	Kim Best	671-1810
PMRC Pool Phone	(in season only)	963-2239

### **CLASSIFIEDS**

#### Services

Cox Services/Health & Wellness Programs Contact Liz Hayes (757-472-0283)

Professional Painting & Handyman Services Contact Carlos (757-506-2118)

#### 50% off Fall Proof Assessment

Please Contact LINDA WHITE AT 757-553-0996 or <u>ezekiel5@me.com.</u> QUESTIONS? Don't hesitate to call.

THIS OFFER EXPIRES BY SEPTEMBER 2015.

#### Room to Let in Home

Private Bedroom & Bath Full use of common areas \$430/month plus part utilities Proof of Income & References Req. Call James at 403-1792 or 456-2771

#### For Sale

4-drawer, steel commercial-size filing cabinet. One drawer won't close completely.3 drawers have folder hangers. Take it away for \$5. 499-9131

