

Neighborhood News

October 2006

Fall Edition

Civic League Meeting October 19, 2006 7:30 pm Larchmont Methodist Church 1101 Jamestown Crescent

Agenda Civic League Fall Meeting

Larchmont Park Improvements

New Moon—October 22



1st Quarter—October 29



Full Moon—November 5



3rd Quarter—November 12



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President's Letter - News for Park

By Dave O'Dell

Hello everyone!

I hope your Fall is off to a great start. With the Fall season comes the beginning of school. This is the perfect time to discuss possible improvements to the park adjacent to Larchmont Elementary. As you may recall, Mayor Fraim and Councilman Winn stated during our last meeting that the city would consider improvements to the facilities. We formed a committee and they have come up with several great suggestions.

Like all matters considered by the Larchmont\Edgewater Civic League, I want to bring their recommendations before the full membership for consideration. Once these recommendations are considered by the membership, those that pass will be forwarded to the city for review and a feasibility study.

The park in Larchmont is the last large public green space that we have in the

neighborhood. Please be a part of deciding its future! See you on October 19th.

Dave

Please be aware that on at least one occasion, someone has misrepresented themselves in the neighborhood as the "President of the civic league". This was in connection with comments to a contractor, regarding construction on a home in the neighborhood. This is very disturbing, as we have had an increase in concern over scams and unwanted solicitations. I have requested that any member of the board that discusses any issue with a resident provide their contact information. If anyone approaches you as a board member of the civic league and does not provide their contact information, please call me immediately.



President

GET INVOLVED!

Civic League Membership

Join your civic league & get involved!

Dues are only \$10 per household per calendar year.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

e-mail address: _____

Mail to: Treasurer, Larchmont Civic League, 1041 Jamestown Cres., Norfolk, VA 23508

Great Ideas for Larchmont Park Improvements

By Denise Fisher

A committee of enthusiastic residents has been brainstorming ideas for enhancing the recreation area behind the Larchmont Elementary School. Norfolk Mayor, Paul Fraim, and Councilman Winn suggested that the Civic League develop some ideas for upgrading the facilities with features that would serve the community's recreational interests.

Last year, when Old Dominion University was negotiating with the City of Norfolk about future land development, Larchmont citizens voiced their strong opposition to any plans that would take away residential use of the park for the university's programs. ODU's final plans left the recreation area completely intact, to the delight (and applause) of Civic League members. The attention that this issue brought to the park created an appreciation and renewed focus on how the area could be upgraded and more fully utilized by area residents.

At last spring's Civic League meeting, interested residents signed up to be on a committee to explore improve-

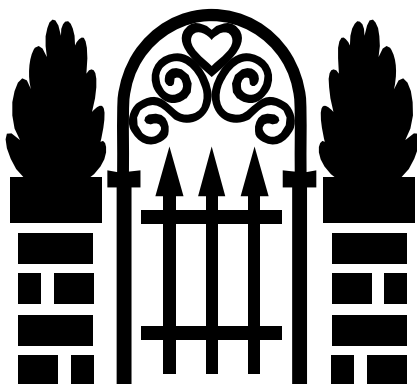
ments for presentation to the Civic League, and ultimately to the city's Parks and Recreation Department. The committee has met twice over the summer and has come up with several appealing ideas.

The most prominent proposals include the construction of a small pier on the waterfront side of the park, to allow pedestrians a view of the water, and to provide canoes and kayaks with a temporary docking station from the waterway. Another significant feature that was well received was the addition

of a walking path around the perimeter of the park. A surfaced walkway of modest proportions would accommodate walkers, joggers, strollers, and wheelchairs or scooters for those with restricted mobility. A few simple seating features and distance markers were also suggested for placement along the path at selected locations.

A prominent theme in the park's enhancement plans, as discussed by the committee, was the intent to preserve green space, create a facility that serves a wide range of interests within the community, and develop a park for all seasons.

The committee plans to meet again on Saturday, October 14, 2006, 10 am, at the Larchmont Elementary School parking lot to finalize a preliminary plan for presentation at the upcoming Civic League meeting. If you would like to contribute your ideas or concerns, you can attend the next committee meeting or contact one of the following committee members with your suggestions: Laurie Chapman, Denise Fisher, or Kim Phillips.



Possible Scam Averted by Watchful Neighbors

By Laurie Chapman

During the summer months we continued to have the usual incidents occur in our neighborhood. In June there were 20 reported incidents: 6 cases of vandalism, 3 of larceny (parts from auto), 1 larceny from an auto, 2 larceny of a bicycle; 3 "other" larcenies, 2 burglaries, 1 stolen vehicle, 1 hit and run to property, and 1 simple assault, and 1 narcotics incident.

In July there were a lot fewer reports to the police. There were 3 vandalism incidents, 2 larcenies from autos, 1 larceny of a bicycle, 1 burglary, 1 simple assault, 1 narcotics incident, and 1 robbery to an individual for a total of 10 reports to the police.

However, as of the 20th of August the number of incidents has already increased since July. There have been 2

vandalisms reported so far in August, 1 larceny from an auto, 2 "other" larcenies, 4 burglaries, 1 stolen vehicle, 1 hit and run to property, and 1 case of brandishing a firearm, totaling 12 reports so far.

Also in August there was concern about some college students in the area soliciting security systems. Thanks to some of our residents and Officer Routon for checking on the company (Apex) and the legitimacy of the solicitors. (They checked out ok). It's good to have such diligent residents!!! Keep up the good work!

A reminder to everyone: when you call the police about an incident, you MUST ask them to take a report whether they come out to the house or not. If you don't, the incident will NOT be reported in the monthly reports found online. Also, you can find the monthly reports at http://www.norfolk.gov/neighborhood_offenses. The list is updated every few days. Please report non-emergency incidents by calling 441-5610.

Larchmont's Beginning in 1906

Excerpted from Norfolk website article by Stephanie Formby

With the exception of Ghent, probably no other neighborhood grew so rapidly in the early days of Norfolk than the suburb of Larchmont. Located five miles from downtown, then considered quite a distance, it was conceived in 1906 as part of Norfolk County. A detriment to the development of this area was the fact that this area was considered "country" by many Norfolk residents. Therefore, Mr. T. Marshall Bellamy came up with an ingenious plan to drum up business. He developed his own bus line, the Larchmont Transit Company, which regularly ran from the Confederate Monument to Larchmont at the cost of a nickel or a "jitney," as a nickel was then termed. This, in turn led

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Find police reports online at
http://www.norfolk.gov/neighborhood_offenses



Virginia Beach Friends School

Open House – Wed, Nov 1
-Fully Accredited - Pre-K thru 12th
Art, Athletics and Technology Classes
1537 Laskin Rd. Virginia Beach
428-7534 www.friends-school.org

Take-charge Leaders Needed in Larchmont

By Denise Fisher

Opportunities abound for volunteer participation in your neighborhood with the Larchmont-Edgewater Civic League. Read through the position descriptions below, and find a match that fits your skills and schedule.

Neighborhood Watch Captains

Take an active role in overseeing the comings and goings on your street, and get support and updates from local law enforcement and from other watch captains. If you don't know the Neighborhood Watch Captain for your block, it may be because someone like you is needed to fill the void. Report suspicious observations of your neighbors and pass along advisories and helpful precautions from the Norfolk Police Department and the Neighborhood Watch Chairperson. Contact Laurie Chapman to volunteer or get further information.

Newsletter Delivery Assistants

Help your Civic League avoid expensive mailing costs by delivering the newsletter on a block or two near your

house. Make it a family activity or do it with a friend. The newsletter publication schedule is just four times a year. Contact Laurie Chapman to have your name added to the list of physically fit delivery assistants.

TOP 10 REASONS TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE LARCHMONT-EDGEWATER CIVIC LEAGUE

10. *Be the first on your block to see the latest issue of the Civic League Newsletter.*
9. *Learn all the names of Civic League leaders and put them on your phone's speed dial.*
8. *Use your Civic League activities as a reason to get out of unwanted dinner invitations.*
7. *Unite your neighbors against unsavory neighborhood behaviors.*
6. *See your good ideas put into action.*
5. *List your Civic League participation on your résumé.*
4. *Become an active and appreciated member of your community.*
3. *Get a great exercise workout while you walk the neighborhood.*
2. *Get to know your fun and quirky neighbors.*
1. *Put your unique talents to use for a worthwhile purpose while honing your skills for that Nobel Prize you've always wanted to pursue.*

Committee Members

Volunteer to be a member or a chairperson of a committee, or nominate yourself to become a future Civic League Officer or Board Member. Fresh faces and new ideas are a welcome addition to the community. Contact Dave O'Dell to express your interest for a position in which you'd like to serve.

Name-your-own-specialty Position

Offer skills that your neighbors don't even know you have. Submit an article, or story and photo for the newsletter or website. Work on layout or newsletter printing assembly. Present a new idea, or identify a worthy project in your area of expertise. Our neighborhood is full of talented residents who are waiting to be discovered or asked for assistance. Take this as a personal invitation for you to step forward and take the lead in whatever role you see as a need. Contact anyone who's listed in the newsletter information section, related to the interests or skills you have to offer.

Police Reports for September & Early October

Street Name	Block	Offense - Premise Type	Date	Time
ALSON DR	5500	LARCENY - OF BICYCLE	9/21/2006	2030
BEDFORD AV	1100	FRAUD, Credit Card/ATM	9/22/2006	1530
BRUNSWICK AV	1300	LARCENY - PARTS FROM AUTO	9/7/2006	1030
BUCKINGHAM AV	1100	VANDALISM	9/24/2006	2200
CARROLL PL	6100	VANDALISM	9/10/2006	0030
GLENHAVEN CS	5900	LARCENY (All others)	9/26/2006	1500
HAMPTON BL	5800	HIT & RUN - PROPERTY	9/24/2006	0030
HAMPTON BL	6200	THROWN OBJECT/MOVING VEHICLE	9/14/2006	1610
HAMPTON BL	6600	HIT & RUN - PROPERTY	9/9/2006	1730
JAMESTOWN CS	1100	OTHER CRIME OFFENSE	9/23/2006	1447
MAGNOLIA AV	800	HIT & RUN - PROPERTY	9/2/2006	2330
MELROSE PW	1600	LARCENY - PARTS FROM AUTO	9/4/2006	1530
MELROSE PW	1600	HIT & RUN - PROPERTY	9/7/2006	1700
MONROE PL	5400	LARCENY - FROM AUTO	9/17/2006	0800
POWHATAN AV	5900	VANDALISM	9/22/2006	1530
POWHATAN AV	5900	VANDALISM	9/22/2006	1530
POWHATAN AV	6100	LARCENY (All others)	9/7/2006	0700
ROLFE AV	6100	LARCENY - PARTS FROM AUTO	9/10/2006	1000
W 49TH ST	1400	LARCENY - OF BICYCLE	9/13/2006	2100
W 49TH ST	1400	LARCENY (All others)	9/30/2006	1130
W 49TH ST	1600	VANDALISM	9/10/2006	1600
W 49TH ST	1600	VANDALISM	9/8/2006	0000
W 49TH ST	1600	HIT & RUN - PROPERTY	9/8/2006	0030
ROLFE AV	6100	LARCENY - PARTS FROM AUTO	9/10/2006	1000
W 49TH ST	1400	LARCENY - OF BICYCLE	9/13/2006	2100
W 49TH ST	1400	LARCENY (All others)	9/30/2006	1130
W 49TH ST	1600	VANDALISM	9/10/2006	1600
W 49TH ST	1600	VANDALISM	9/8/2006	0000
W 49TH ST	1600	HIT & RUN - PROPERTY	9/8/2006	0030
HAMPTON BL	6200	HIT & RUN - PROPERTY	10/2/2006	0800
MAGNOLIA AV	1200	VANDALISM	10/4/2006	1600

Elected Officers

President

Dave O'Dell 440-9061
 president@larchmontedgewater.org

Vice President

Laurie Chapman 423-5731
 laurie@chapman.net

Secretary

Vickie Jones 423-3004
 secretary@larchmontedgewater.org

Treasurer

Rhonda Liberto 423-3801
 treasurer@larchmontedgewater.org

Committee Chairs

Membership Committee

Hale Delavan
 hdelavan@aol.com

Parks & Recreation Committee

Kim Phillips 440-8354
 kim-phillips@hotmail.com

Code Enforcement & Zoning

GM Ziller 423-2064
 gmziller@bellatlantic.net

Safety & Welfare/Neighborhood Watch

Laurie Chapman 423-5731
 laurie@chapman.net

City Living Norfolk Style Lecture Series

The Norfolk Neighborhood Design and Resource Center, together with the Hampton Roads Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, is sponsoring a series of lectures that are free and open to the public. The following is the schedule for upcoming lectures:

October 19, 2006 - 7pm

LEED and Sustainable Design & Construction
 by John Dunn, Moseley Architects

November 16, 2006 - 7pm

Archi-Post: Designing Hampton Roads - Presentation Post Card Series
 by Kevin Cheney, Assoc. AIA, Clark-Nexsen

All lectures will be held at the Norfolk Neighborhood Design and Resource Center, 111 Granby Street. For more information please contact Andrew Northcutt at 757-664-6784.

Newsletter

Neighborhood News is the Larchmont-Edgewater Civic League Newsletter. Your submissions, comments, and ideas for articles or information, are heartily welcomed. Please call to discuss ideas you would like to see in your newsletter: Denise Fisher 489-2996. Articles or ads (in rough or finished form) can also be submitted by e-mail:

OHDenise@aol.com

Website

Check out our website for newsletter archives, photos, current and historical information, and other neighborhood date: www.larchmontedgewater.org

DR. JOEL N. ZABA, O.D., LTD., OPTOMETRISTS
 DR. HELEN B. HADLEY, O.D. DR. DEENA FALSETTA, O.D.
 DR. LISA CHILES, O.D.

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Business Card Size (approx. 2" x 3 1/2")	\$50.00
Quarter Page (approx. 4 1/2" x 3 1/2")	\$100.00
Half Page (approx. 5" x 6 1/2")	\$200.00

How to Submit an Ad for Publication

E-mail your ad in electronic format (e.g., .jpg, .tif file) to the newsletter editor at OHDenise@aol.com or call 489-2996 to have an ad composed. Pay for ads by check, payable to "Treasurer, Larchmont-Edgewater Civic League" and mail to 1041 Jamestown Crescent, Norfolk, VA 23508. Ad rates listed are for a single newsletter publication.

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to the nickname of the "Jitney Bus," which carried curious citizens into the rural outskirts of the city. Mr. Bellamy himself owned a house along Cambridge Crescent with the family farm animals, the Vanderbilt House. This house, built in 1833, stayed in the same family from the time of its construction; it was torn down several years ago, however. Jamestown Crescent was built specifically to gain access to the house. Located on what was once James Creek, this residence shared it's country setting with such locally known families as the Lamberts, Dunstons, and Captain Johnson.