

Neighborhood News

Fall 2007



President's letter



Dave O'Dell
President

Greetings neighbors! I hope you have had a nice summer. School is back in session and the children are busy at work. That means it is time for our fall and winter meetings. They will be on October 25th and December 13th. Both have very full agendas.

In October, we will be having Old Dominion University speak on their new Community Development Corporation. It will be an informative presentation which will give us

insight into how the university is committed to improving Norfolk.

Also, Darrell Crittendon of Norfolk's Division of Parks, Recreation, and Open Space will be giving a presentation on Bluestone Park located on the Lambert property on Bluestone Avenue behind Foreman Field at Old Dominion University. You may remember that Mayor Paul Fraim and Councilman Barclay Winn promised the City would build a "Tot Lot" somewhere in the vicinity of Old Dominion. To this end, the old Lambert property was acquired by the City and the existing structure torn down. I am pleased to announce that the City is now in the process of planning the park. Come on out and give your input on the design!

At December's meeting, we will hold our general elections. The officers to be elected are president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. The term of office is two years. Nominations will be made from the floor. You must be a dues-paying member to qualify to vote or hold office. The annual dues of \$10 may be paid at anytime and are for the calendar year. Please note, if you are not a current member, dues paid in December will be applied to this year.

Bob Fenning, Vice President of Administration and Finance at Old Dominion University, will again be our speaker in December. Bob has been our guest many times, and his presentations are always informative and very well received. Old Dominion has so many projects going on that the board has decided to make them a regular guest. Each meeting they will discuss one or two of the projects going on at the university. Come see all the exciting developments involving our largest neighbor!

In addition, John Stewart, President of the Lafayette Wetlands Partnership will be giving us a presentation. The Lafayette Wetlands Partnership recently completed wetlands restoration work off Colley Avenue. Mr. Stewart would like to share with us the purpose of his organization and how they intend to continue their work.

I hope to see you at each of our meetings!

New complaint line works!

by G.M. Ziller

Our neighborhood's "new" Code Enforcement Officer, Russell Masten, wants people who have complaints (local conditions, code infractions, etc.), to call the "Norfolk Cares" central hotline number 757-664-6510 during business hours.

(Continued—See **Complaint line** on Page 2)

Upcoming Civic League Meetings

Thursday

October 25th &
December 13th

7:30 p.m.

Larchmont United Methodist Church
1101 Jamestown Crescent

Neighborhood Crime Report

by Laurie Chapman

Vandalism is on the rise in our neighborhood since my last report in April. There have been 26 reported incidents of vandalism to a house, yard, or road—six of which were in August alone. And these are only the REPORTED cases. Remember, it is very important to report all incidents so the police can identify problem areas and increase patrols in our neighborhood.

Several houses in the Larchmont/Edgewater neighborhood have been vandalized by "eggings" this summer. In a recent incident the resident was able to get a description of the car. The police were contacted through the non-emergency number and an officer was dispatched to the scene. Officer W. B. Routon, our PACE officer, has a detective working on these incidents. Egging a house is no laughing matter, contrary to what the teenage perpetrators may believe. A pattern has been noted and the police are working to catch the perpetrators. They will be prosecuted when apprehended.

In mid-August a woman jogger on the Hampton Boulevard Bridge was struck by a bottle thrown from a passing car.

(Continued—See **Crime** on Page 2)

Civic League Membership Join now and get involved!

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

Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: (H) _____ (W) _____
E-mail: _____

Mail today to:

Treasurer, Larchmont Civic League
1041 Jamestown Crescent
Norfolk, VA 23508

Complaint line (Continued from Page 1)

This group will distribute the complaint to the appropriate city office to take action. If you don't see any results in a reasonable length of time, you are requested email me at gmzjr@verizon.net and I will follow-up on the complaint.

If you have issues such as a street light, pothole or sidewalk, etc., that needs fixing, the Norfolk Public Works website (<http://www.city.norfolk.va.us/publicworks/>) is excellent and quick to use. Just look for "City Services" drop-down menu to proceed. Otherwise, you should call the complaint number mentioned previously.

OPTOMETRISTS

Dr. Joel N. Zaba, O.D., LTD.,
 Dr. Deena Falsetta, O.D.,
 Dr. Andrea Bassi, O.D., Dr. Lisa Chiles, O.D.
 Pediatric, Adolescent and Adult Vision Care
OUR OFFICE ACCEPTS MOST INSURANCES

1232 West Little Creek Rd.
 Suite 200
 (Near Hampton Blvd.)
 Norfolk, VA. 23505
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 281 Independence Blvd.
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Crime (Continued from Page 1)

One of our conscientious residents witnessed the incident and followed the car North on Hampton Boulevard to a store on the Naval Base and called the police. The perpetrators did not deny the bottle incident but only admitted to littering. However, the witness reported that the perpetrators threw up their arms and cheered when the woman was struck! Apparently, she was not seriously injured and left the scene. Unfortunately, the Norfolk police needed the ID of the jogger to charge the men. An email was circulated to find the victim, or anyone who might have known her. Jim and Marilyn Melchor from N. Fairwater Drive "stood guard" on the bridge at 7:30 each evening for several days and stopped every "blondish 30-something" female jogger. After working the bridge for a week, Jim and Marilyn were unable to find the woman. "Thanks" Jim and Marilyn for your great community effort!

There were 42 larcenies to cars, car parts, and buildings. REMEMBER TO KEEP YOUR CARS LOCKED AT ALL TIMES! An unlocked car is an invitation to a thief. Do not leave valuable items in your car such as your briefcase, camera, or laptop.

There have also been 11 burglaries, at least one each month. In May there were six. Remember to keep your doors locked even when you are home, and your alarm turned on if you have one. We must be proactive.

Crime statistics can be viewed online at http://www.norfolk.gov/neighborhood_offenses/.

Keep the non-emergency number handy: 441-5610 as well as Officer W. B. Routon's cell number: 636-3196.

If you would like to get involved with our Neighborhood Watch program please e-mail me at laurie@chapman.net.



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9230 Granby Street
(at Tidewater Dr. Overpass)
Phone 531-0010

Elected Officers

President —Dave O'Dell	440-9061
president@larchmontedgewater.org	
Vice President —Laurie Chapman	423-5731
laurie@larchmontedgewater.org	
Secretary —Vickie Jones	423-3004
secretary@larchmontedgewater.org	
Treasurer —Rhonda Liberto	423-3801
treasurer@larchmontedgewater.org	

Committee Chairs

Membership—Hale Delavan (hdelavan@aol.com)
Parks & Recreation—Kim Phillips (kim-phillips@hotmail.com)
Code Enforcement & Zoning—GM Ziller (gmzjr@verizon.net)
Safety & Welfare/Neighborhood Watch—Laurie Chapman (laurie@chapman.net)