

neighborhood

NEWS



Winter

Larchmont/Edgewater Community News

2005

Civic League Meeting: December 8 at 7:30 PM

President's Letter

Hi all! I hope the holiday season is going well for you. Our next meeting will be December 8th at 7:30 pm at the Larchmont Methodist Church. We are about to wrap up another year and I can think of no better speaker for the event than Bob Fenning, Vice President for Administration and Finance at Old Dominion University. He will give us an update on all the exciting things going on at ODU. Bob has previously been our featured speaker and was very well received.



The other big agenda item will be civic league elections. Per our bylaws, we elect our general officers in December, for a two-year term starting in January. The four offices to be elected are president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. Candidates are nominated from the floor. Currently, I have willing candidates for the positions of secretary and treasurer. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact me. If you are not

interested in serving as a general officer, but would like to volunteer, we always have posts that you can fill. Feel free to contact me to answer any questions regarding any of these positions.

I am very proud of the accomplishments of the civic league over the last four years. Some of the major items were the election of officers by the general membership, a revision of the by-laws, the creation of a fantastic website, and the resurrection of Neighborhood

Watch, just to name a few. In addition, the average attendance at the meetings has doubled during the same timeframe.

The reason for these accomplishments is quite clear to me. The civic league has been blessed by a group of dedicated volunteers who have admirably served on the board. They have given of their time and talents for the sole purpose of keeping Larchmont and Edgewater great places to live. I would

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Historic Overlay Vote Defeated by a Modest Margin

In a close vote of 106 against and 99 for, Larchmont-Edgewater households voted on a proposed recommendation that would ultimately designate the neighborhood a Historic Overlay District.

The unusually high turnout of attendees at the voting meeting and the preceding informational meetings, reflected both the emotional element of the debate as well as the pride of residents and homeowners, who value the aesthetics and unique flavor of their Larchmont-Edgewater neighborhoods.

The proposal stemmed from concerns of residents wanting to protect the historic and architectural style of the neighborhood from haphazard renovations and high-density development. The proposed Historic Overlay

designation would have implemented design guidelines to keep new construction and major renovation compatible with the existing character of the district. Construction work would have required review by a planning commission, who would issue a certificate of appropriateness, for approved designs, before any city permits could be issued.

The Larchmont-Edgewater Civic League held a voting session, by written ballot, for its members on 22 September 2005, at the Larchmont United Methodist Church. The outcome of the vote means that the recommendation for a Historic Overlay District will not be forwarded to the Norfolk Planning Commission or the Norfolk City Council.

Neighborhood Watch

In October, several criminal incidents were reported:

- 3 burglaries
- 5 larcenies (1 involving auto parts)
- 1 stolen bike
- 4 vandalisms, some involving cars
- 1 report of damage to private property

There has been no new information provided on the mid-October break-in and burglary in the 1300 block of Magnolia Avenue. At this time, the police cannot connect the incident last spring, on Carillo, with the Magnolia incident, but they are considering the possibility of a connection. The police continue to work on both cases.

Law enforcement officials stress the importance of keeping all doors of houses and cars locked at all times. Many reports of breaking and entering, as well as car larcenies and vandalisms, are due to unlocked homes or cars. Do not leave anything of value inside your car, especially presents for the holidays. Thieves are also "shopping" for presents at this time of year.

Please report strange activity or persons, immediately, to the police, via the non-emergency number, 441-5610. Then, inform your block captain or me. Remember, the police cannot help if they are not informed in a timely manner.

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December 8th Meeting Agenda— Larchmont Methodist Church

Election of Officers

ODU Development
Bob Fenning
VP Administration & Finance
Old Dominion University

Neighborhood Watch (cont'd)

Many of our residents are also not getting timely information, concerning criminal activity in our area, because their block does not have a block watch captain. Once again, I ask for someone to volunteer to disseminate information to the other residents on the block. If there is no captain for the block, no one on the block receives any of the important information I send out. Unfortunately, this is happening on 81 of the blocks in Larchmont and Edgewater. If your block is not represented by a captain, and you are willing to help out, please contact me at 423-5731 or laurie@chapman.net.

Laurie Chapman
Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

President's Letter (cont'd)

like to take a moment to thank a few of them here.

Hal Cannon has been vice president during my entire tenure. He has gone to countless meetings and events with me, without complaint. He has been a true friend and trusted advisor. Thanks Hal!

Rhonda Liberto has served many roles in the last four years. She has been secretary, treasurer, newsletter editor, and civic league representative to the North Colley Business Association. Her energy and enthusiasm for our neighborhood has been a model for us all.

Vickie Jones has been our secretary. Her diligence at taking notes, and her even temperament has saved me many times. I cannot thank her enough for her efforts.

G. M. Ziller has been our city codes chairman. He has helped countless residents in the neighborhood with a multitude of problems. He has also been instrumental in assisting with our meetings and getting our newsletter printed. He has been quite an asset to the neighborhood.

Laurie Chapman has been the head of our Neighborhood Watch. It was a tremendous undertaking to get it operational again and keep it running. Her efforts have undoubtedly had a tremendous impact on keeping our neighborhood safe.

Hale Delevan has chaired the membership committee. He has kept a great sense of humor through it all and he is a true gentleman.

Mike O'Hearn has provided continual support to us by serving on several committees. He has supported our neighborhood with his time and talents for over a decade. Thanks Mike!

Sally Hartman has been the driving force behind our website. She has been the motivating factor behind getting it up and running, and she continues to keep it maintained. Thanks for all your hard work.

Kent Queman has contributed by getting our newsletter ready to print. He is another unsung hero.

Tom Templeton has served on countless committees over the last ten years. His open-minded and levelheaded approach to many issues has served the neighborhood well.

These were just a few of the people who have served us all over the last four years. I am grateful for all the volunteers' efforts on our behalf. Please thank them for all their hard work!

I look forward to seeing you on the 8th!

Dave

*Civic League Current Board Members*Elected Officers:

President – Dave O'Dell
Vice President – Hal Cannon
Secretary – Vickie Jones
Treasurer – Rhonda Liberto

Volunteer Leaders:

Membership Chairperson – Hale Delavan
Code Enforcement Coordinator – G. M. Ziller
Neighborhood Watch Coordinator – Laurie Chapman
Web Page Editor – Sally Hartman
Newsletter Managing Editor – Denise Fisher
Newsletter Layout Editor – Kent Queman
Newsletter Distribution Coordinator – Laurie Chapman
Historic Preservation Committee Chair – Michael O'Hearn
Newsletter Distribution Volunteers – Selected Students of Blair Middle School

Maury Fruit Sale

The Maury Booster Association is selling oranges, grapefruit, tangerines and vine-ripened tomatoes from Florida, monthly through April. All proceeds benefit Maury High School. Orders must be placed in advance and picked up on specific days at the school. December orders should be placed by 5 December with pickup on 16 December at the school. For details and to order, call 628-3349 or visit the web site: <http://www.mauryboosters.org/>

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 data: www.larchmontedgewater.org

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