



Ocean Park Civic League

NEWSLETTER

January 1999

****Serving the Ocean Park Community****

Meeting Notice
Thursday, January 7, 1999
@ Ocean Park Volunteer Fire & Rescue H.Q.
Time 7:30 P. M.

MEETING AGENDA

NEW BUSINESS

OLD BUSINESS

WEST STRATFORD CLOSURE

Mr. Mark Ricketts of the City's Planning Department appeared at the November Civic League Meeting and said that the decision to close was postponed until Spring, 1999. We will continue to follow this issue.

A variance request by Bay Reflections was approved by the Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA) on November 18, 1998. The request was for a five (5) foot set back from West Stratford Street to permit porches for two newly constructed buildings, one of which had a family already moved in. The Civic League did not oppose the variance. Moreover, Bay Reflections at our request offered to upgrade the landscaping near the barricade and stabilize the sand dune areas.

Serious objections were conveyed to the BZA as to why this was allowed to happen in the City's planning and review process.



1. Neighborhood Crime Watch, Mr. Bill Chambers, guest speaker: An article submitted by Mr. Mark Johnson appears on Page Two.

2. Ocean Park Civic League tax exempt status: Ms. Carol T. Chappell, CPA is preparing the necessary documents.

3. Update: Planned structure at Shore Drive between Dupont Circle and Dinwiddie Road named Dupont Circle Condominiums. More information on Page Three.

4. Ocean Park Civic League Meetings: Day and time change. Article on Page Three

5. Other

At the conclusion of the meeting two no-charge raffles will be held. Everyone attending the civic league meeting will have an opportunity to win one of two Gift Certificates from BAYSIDE EXXON, 4460 Shore Drive, for a free Tiger Express!! Oil Change Service (value \$25, each gift certificate)

You must be present to win.

Neighborhood Watch Update

By Mark Johnson

On Thursday Jan 7, 1999, Mr. Bill Chambers with the Neighborhood Watch Crime Prevention Program, will speak to the Ocean Park Civic League about establishing a "Neighborhood Watch" in Ocean Park. There was overwhelming support at the November Civic League Meeting to pursue the program. The benefits of deterring crime are obvious.

Implementing the program requires involvement from the entire neighborhood. It will not be successful if no one gets involved. We need volunteers from the entire neighborhood to attend the meeting, understand the program, and commit to a minimal amount of time to help establish the program. Your involvement would consist of little more than exchanging phone numbers with your neighbors and possibly handing out 10-15 pieces of materials involving neighborhood watch to those same neighbors.

While establishing a "Neighborhood Watch" for the entire neighborhood will take time, those sections of the neighborhood with the strongest support and involvement will be established much sooner. There is no guarantee that all parts of Ocean Park will be protected under the program. It will depend on your involvement!

I am hopeful that we can have a strong showing and support at the January 7th meeting. If you are interested in getting involved but are unable to attend, please give me a call. If you do not want to get involved but know of someone who may, call me as well. We would like to find residents living on every street in the Ocean Park Community.

You can reach me (Mark Johnson) at: (H)460-9898, or (W) 473-3369. I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

DUPONT CIRCLE CONDOMINIUMS

name is Dupont Circle Condominiums and is derived from the way Dupont Circle Street winds south across Shore Drive and then north toward the Bay along the east side of this new structure.

The first site plan was disapproved by the City because it impacted on the sand dune and required review by the Virginia Beach Wetlands Board. The second submission was due to the City by November 21, 1998, or it would have to meet the stricter zoning requirements required by the new B-4 overlay approved by City Council on October 13, 1998. It was submitted on time and subsequently approved.

Building plans have not been submitted to the city at this time. We do know the building will be three stories high with parking beneath the 40 condominiums. The construction materials will be wood and brick. Access to the building will be from Dinwiddie Road. The site plan shows trees, bushes and sidewalks for Shore Drive and Dinwiddie Road.

Ocean Park Civic League

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CIRCULATION: 950 Homes & Businesses

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Mrs. Judith (Judy) Connors was recognized by the Council of Civic Organizations (CCO) for her many contributions to the City of Virginia Beach on December 9th, 1998.

The following article is submitted to the Civic League in recognition of, and as a tribute to our admirable citizen.

Judy, as we all know her, is a past president of the Ocean Park Civic League. She remains active in this and other organizations in Virginia Beach. She can always be counted on to provide guidance and input into any Ocean Park Civic League issue. During the past year, she has been our representative to the Council of Civic Organizations.

As a staunch supporter of the Francis Land House, she lobbied the City Council successfully for funds to support this historical landmark. This past year she has again been recognized by the City of Virginia Beach by being appointed to the Shore Drive Advisory Committee.

Judy was selected as one of 100 citizens to help the City Council decide its new budget priorities for Fiscal Year 1998-1999. She is held in high esteem by the City of Virginia Beach officials as a citizen who is knowledgeable and can provide guidance on spending priorities. Locally elected state and federal officials laud her for her dedication and purpose in the quest of good government.

Since 1944, she has been a faithful friend and servant to Ocean Park and its environs. She supported the CCO since its inception. I value her guidance and friendship in all issues impacting the Ocean Park Community.

Jim McElligott

CIVIC LEAGUE MEETINGS

For more years than many of us remember, the Ocean Park Civic League's (OPCL) meetings have taken place on the first Thursday of the month on a bimonthly schedule early in the evening. No meetings are held during June, July, and August.

COMING TO THE MEETING ON THURSDAY? PLEASE BRING A FRIEND OR NEIGHBOR

Attendance at the meetings remains constant. A coterie of about 30 and 40 residents are usually present, except when hot button issues concerning Ocean Park fully awaken us. Then, there will be a large turnout. The length of a meeting is pinned at about 1 ½ hours by the president.

Weekday meetings may conflict with people who work and find little time in the evening to devote away from home. To enhance the number of residents who may attend the civic league meetings, we would like to have your remarks to determine if more residents will attend meetings on Saturday mornings from 9:30 to 11:00 A. M. Please let me know. Either pen a brief note or call me @ 363-8112. I hope to get a consensus from our residents.

Jim McElligott

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Third Police Precinct, Independence Boulevard in the Haygood area, has a monthly meeting of the "Citizen's Advisory Meeting." The meeting is held on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 P.M. at Bayside High School. **Captain Sandi K. Baum** is commander of the Third Precinct. All citizens are invited to attend these meetings.

And the Winner is:

Congratulations to **Mr. Lex Dunn**
At the last civic league meeting, he won a Twenty (\$20.) dollar gift certificate donated to the civic league by La Fiesta Mexican Restaurante, Shore Drive. Two no-charge raffles will be held at the next meeting, January 7, 1999.

You must be present to win.



Twelfth Night

THE FRANCIS LAND HOUSE
Wednesday, January 6th, 1999
Between 6:00 & 8:00 P.M.



memorable way to conclude your family Holiday Season is at the Twelfth Night Celebration at the Francis Land House. Relive the splendor of a 18th-century "Twelfth Night", the last day of Christmas. Dancing with the Williamsburg Heritage Dancers, music, living history, refreshments including the Twelfth Night cake, New Year toasts and burning of the greens will bring this English tradition alive.



The Francis Land House is located at
3131 Virginia Beach Boulevard, Virginia Beach

For ticket information, please call: 431-4000

TAX EXEMPT STATUS FOR OPCL

In our last newsletter, we sought someone to help reestablish the civic league's tax exempt status. In the expression of *volunteerism* that is very common in Virginia Beach, **Ms. Carol L. Chappell, CPA**, 3728 Shore Drive, came to the fore and is preparing the necessary paperwork.

Ms. Chappell, we thank you.

NOTICE

The next Ocean Park Civic League Meeting will be on Thursday, March 4, 1999 at 7:30 P. M. at the Ocean Park Volunteer Fire and Rescue Headquarters.

PATRONIZE SHORE DRIVE MERCHANTS

Newsletter Development

The Ocean Park Civic League is dedicated toward working for the improvement of our community and enhancing our quality of life. This newsletter I continue to be a "vehicle of communication" to serve the residents of the Ocean Park area. It will convey items of interest important to our citizens. The newsletter is distributed to 950 homes in Ocean Park and Pelican Dunes, and to the businesses on Shore Drive in Ocean Park at this time.

We would like to extend fuller distribution of the newsletter along the Shore Drive corridor from the Lesner Bridge to the Route 13 underpass to commercial and service businesses. We feel it is important to keep them informed and involved. Volunteers are needed to cover that area. Please call Jim McElligott and become one of the fleet-footed

couriers who deliver the newsletters on the weekends before the regular meetings.

Business card size advertisements appear in this newsletter and they will appear in future newsletters. These businesses help defray the cost of printing these informational missives. Business owners also give gifts in kind to the OPCL. We urge you to patronize these supporters.

Should you have any news of interest that concerns our area, please call Jim McElligott @ 363- 8112, or Jerry Nelinson @464-5018. You can submit an article by mail or E-mail. Mail your stories to our OPCL address or send it via E-mail to: baygull17@aol.com.

Jim McElligott

B A Y S I D E

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Dues Are Always Due

With the cooperation of existing and new residents, the Ocean Park Civic League continues to be a viable asset to our community. If you are not a civic league member, join now.

The beginning of the new year is a good time to pay your annual dues.

Belonging to the Ocean Park Civic League is the best value for your Five (\$5.00) dollars.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME.....
ADDRESS.....
PHONE..... RENT..... OWN..... YEARS in OP.....
Areas of Interest in Ocean Park Civic League(check off ✓)

Newsletter contributions.....
Newsletter distribution.....
Refreshments, civic league meetings.....
Social events committee.....

Crime Watch committee.....
New development.....
Zoning.....
Suggestions.....(your remarks, please)

**Mail this Application or Membership Renewal with your dues, Five (\$5.00), to
Ocean Park Civic League (OPCL), P. O. Box 55385, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23455-5385**