

# Ocean Park Civic League



## NEWSLETTER

May 1999

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

**Meeting Notice  
Thursday, May 6, 1999  
@ Ocean Park Volunteer Fire & Rescue H.Q.  
Time: 7:30 P. M.**

### MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. President of Westminster Canterbury, **Erle Marie Lattimer**, will talk about expansion plans for the organization and alternative for parking while construction is in progress for two years.
2. City of Virginia Beach Planner **Mark Ricketts**, will update the status of opening/keeping closed West Stratford Road and how traffic will flow vis-a-vis Shady Oaks and the Three Ships Inn Project.
3. Volunteers are needed for "Clean Up the Bay Day," Saturday morning, June 12th, 1999. Two volunteer coordinators, one for the Northside and one for the Southside are needed for obtaining materials for clean up and administrative duties.
4. **Clay Burnick**, City of Virginia Beach Planning Staff Advisor to the Shore Drive Advisory Committee, will discuss a proposed

change for Ocean Park to the R-5 Zoning Ordinance.

5. Cape Story by the Sea Civic Association requests a donation for the 4th of July Fire Works display.

6. Summer Social: Chairperson **Jackie Longworth** will present the plans.

#### OLD BUSINESS

None at this time

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At the conclusion of the meeting a no-charge raffle will be held. The **Duck In**, Shore Drive, donated a Twenty-five (\$25) Gift Certificate to the civic league. It will be won by a lucky citizen. A civic league member will enjoy a fine meal at a superb restaurant.

**YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN!!**

## AT THE LAST MEETING

**W**hat a great turnout for the March civic league meeting. More than 55 residents attended when there were no vital issues on the agenda. However, all the concerns of the area are important to us. Let's maintain our interest in our community and continue to make an effort to join the faithful who attend regularly.

Our new neighbors, the Bay Lake Retirement and Assisted Living Community, look forward to becoming an integral part of the locale. Their community relations manager, Ms. Carole Mannolini, asks us to see this development as a community resource for the area. She presented an insightful view of the attributes of the new facility. The management, she assured us, welcomes the opportunity to serve as a cultural community center for the area. Here, they plan to have a continual array of activities, not only for the residents who reside there, but for all in the locale who want to participate. The OPCL was invited to meet at the facility and tour the complex. Ms. Mannolini provided the refreshments for the evening.

### Ocean Park Civic League Officers P. O. Box 55385, Virginia Beach, Va 23455-5383

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Vacant

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**CIRCULATION: 950 Homes &**

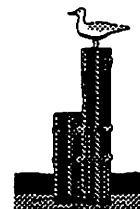
**Businesses**

## And the Winner is:

**CONGRATULATIONS!!**

At the last civic league meeting, a Twenty-five (\$25.) Dollar Gift Certificate donated by the Duck In, Shore Drive, was won by Ms. Kay Barbini. Lucky Lady!

## PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS



## **PASSINGS**

The Ocean Park Community lost a dear and cherished friend with the death of Louise Lyon on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 1999. The former Three Ships Inn was their home when her late husband George founded the Ocean Park Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad which he served as Chief for 35 years.

The story goes that when the men of the newly organized Ocean Park Civic League were reluctant to allow women to take an active role, Louise founded the Ocean Park Womans Club. The club has flourished since 1944 with Louise always taking an active part in all activities.

Girl Scouting was another life long love - countless girls throughout Virginia Beach today can recount stories of their days as a member of Louise's troops. The Rescue Building was then the meeting place for such youth groups.

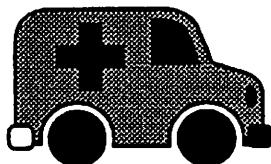
Her "boys and girls" of the Ocean Park Rescue Squad, the firemen and the building itself were lovingly cared for by Louise. The Rescue Squad members were pall bearers at her funeral and formed an honor guard at the church - a tribute well deserved by this lady whose love of life infected all with whom she came in contact.

The Ocean Park Civic League members extend condolences to her family - her children Ann, Susan and George, her sister Sue Hill and brother John Wood and their families.

# SPEED KILLS

Spring is in air. Soon, more of us will be jumping on our bicycles and skateboards, or putting on our jogging shoes to enjoy the outdoors in our neighborhood. Some of us may want to stroll down the street to visit old friends or meet new neighbors who have moved in during the fall and winter. But, I have one concern: Maintaining the speed limits.

The speed limit on our streets is 25 miles per hour. On Jefferson Boulevard, several family pets have been killed by cars whose drivers recklessly drove at more than 45 miles per hour. Recently, an irresponsible driver left a cat dead in the road. This driver did not have the courtesy to notify the family or express regrets over killing a family pet. Should this irresponsible driving continue, one of us may be the next casualty while we are strolling along a street or riding a bike—all because someone was in a hurry in our neighborhood.



Do you want a neighbor to end up here?

concern. We are all responsible for keeping our streets safe.

Submitted by Sharon Swift, Jefferson Boulevard

## Newsletter Contributions

The OPCL Newsletter is an essential component for communications in our community. Residents are invited to submit articles, letters or commentaries to the newsletter.



## Going on the World Wide Web

The Ocean Park community on the World Wide Web, why not? This is one of the best places in the nation to live. Why not tell our story? We are considering that possibility on the Internet. Are there any civic league members who would like to undertake the assignment of constructing an Ocean Park Civic League Home Page? Please call our president, Jim McElligott, or Jerry Nelinson and let them know. They will work with you. Phone numbers on Page 2.



Your OPCL officers hope you have a great summer. The next civic league meeting, tentatively, will be Thursday, September, 2, 1999.

You will receive a notice. Should issues or problems concerning Ocean Park arise, please let your officers know. We assumed the responsibility to serve our community. We are available at all times to do that. Just call one of us. The phone numbers are on Page 2.

*Jim McElligott*

## HELP, IF YOU CAN

In the March OPCL Newsletter, Mr. Andrew Broyles, owner of a building now being renovated on the corners of Shore Drive and East Stratford Road, provided us with a rich history of the building's history. While he has this background available, he has no photos or illustrations of the building. He would like to acquire some if they are available. Is there anyone in our community who lived here for a long while and have any old photos or depictions of this building, or perhaps they know where some photos can be obtained? Mr. Broyles would like to reproduce them and then return the originals. Please call him at: 486-5678. Thank you.

# The 11th Annual Clean Up the Bay Day

**Saturday, June 12, 1999 ★ 9:00 A.M. to Noon**

**We meet at: Albemarle Avenue at the Bay Beach &  
Jimmy's Pizza and Subs, Shore Drive**

**(Two cleanup teams are needed, one to clean the Bay  
beaches, the other to cover the Lynnhaven Inlet area)**

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ach year, tons of refuse, from many sources, enter the marine environment. Not only is it unsightly as it accumulates along the shoreline, but is threatening to marine wildlife. In an effort to put and end to the problem of marine debris, Clean the Bay Day beach cleanups have been conducted since 1989. This one-day effort enlists the help of citizens to pick up trash and document the type of litter found. The resulting data is used to identify and support policies and practices that address the use and disposal of wastes. A beneficial impact is the education of volunteers who participate in the cleanups and the environmental stewardship that result from it. More people are becoming aware of this nocuous marine problem and express a genuine desire to help solve it.



In 1998 alone, 5,000 volunteers covered 323 miles and collected 802,965 pounds of marine debris and coastal trash.

On the occasion of the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Clean Up the Bay Day, Saturday, June 12, 1999, we hope you will join with many other volunteers along the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries who will make an effort to enhance this grand natural asset.

To assure the success of this undertaking in Ocean Park, two zone captains are needed. We will provide preliminary information to you. To better understand the mission and structure of the bay cleanup, on the Internet you can refer to: [www.extreme-fx.com/cleanthebayday](http://www.extreme-fx.com/cleanthebayday)

Let us know who will assume these leadership rolls at the May 6, 1999 meeting, or before that time. Please call our president, Jim McElligott @ 363-8112, and advise him.

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B A Y S I D E  
**EXON**

Gee Faison, Owner  
Post Office Box 5643 • 4460 Shore Drive  
Virginia Beach, VA 23455 • (804) 464-0515

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**Duck-In**

BEACH PARTIES  
START FRIDAY'S 4/16  
WEDNESDAY'S 5/26

481-0201

HOWDY NEIGHBORS!

15% OFF COUPON

MUST BE A RESIDENT OF  
OCEAN PARK! COUPON VALID  
SUN-THURS, NO HOLIDAYS  
EXP 6/30/99 - ALCOHOL EXCLUDED

3324 SHORE DR, VIRGINIA BEACH

## The Neighborhood Watch

**Mr. Mark Johnson**, The Neighborhood Watch Program Coordinator, has been working hard and extremely diligently to bring this important program to fruition by summer. Support of this venture has been limited. Some residents assumed responsibilities of being block captains. More are needed.



**A block captains' duties** are to distribute crime prevention materials to the 10-15 homes in their block, exchange phone numbers with their neighbors so that they can communicate with each other should they see any suspicious activity in or around their homes, and answer any questions' neighbors in their block may have about the program.

There is a need to fill these positions with the onset of summer and with the influx of hundreds of thousands of visitors to Virginia Beach. As we have seen, when the tourists arrive, they have a propensity for exploring the city, especially areas near the water. Along with the tourists, come others: adolescent runaways, homeless people and drifters who are looking for an easy life in the sun and a place to sleep, often on the beaches. We are all aware of an increase of traffic on our back roads at that time, especially on the north side of Shore Drive during the dark early hours of the morning. Some people walk the beach along the bay, a few people sleep on the beaches, others look for a quiet parking place, and an infrequent interloper may look for a target of opportunity, perhaps, to purloin a piece of personal property that is an easy target, or even break into a house or storage shed. It does happen. During the summer there is an increase in crime.

In addition to block captains, we need a coordinator for the following areas: **PELICAN DUNES, MARINER'S LANDING and OCEAN PARK (south of Shore Drive)** A coordinator is responsible for establishing and coordinating the Neighborhood Watch in their section of their neighborhood.

**MEETING:** Anyone interested in participating in the program, as well as those people who have volunteered to be as block captains should attend a brief meeting on May 6, 1999, at 7:00 P. M. at the Ocean Park Fire & Rescue H. Q. We will meet prior to the Civic League meeting scheduled for the same evening at 7:30 p.m.

**The following areas of Ocean Park have block captains and are beginning the "Neighborhood Watch"**

**Ocean Park:** Jefferson Blvd (3898 from dead end at Water Oaks Condos to 3849 and from 3792 to Roanoke Avenue. Coverage needed from 3749 to 3796 Jefferson Boulevard and east of Roanoke Avenue) Raleigh Avenue---Seagull Bluff Drive---Dinwiddie Road (north of Shore Drive)---Dupont Circle (north of Jefferson Boulevard)

**Pelican Dunes:** West Stratford Road (entire street)--- Madison Avenue (from W. Stratford to Jefferson Blvd.

**Mariner's Landing:** Ocean Tides Drive (from Marlin Bay Drive to Clipper Bay Drive) ---Whispering Sands Lane (from Marlin Bay Drive to Clipper Bay Drive)---Clipper Bay Drive (from Ocean Tides Drive to the Rescue Squad Station)

Mark Johnson has undertaken a responsible job, one of cardinal importance, to assure the safety and well-being for the residents of Ocean Park. In every community, citizens are morally and legally responsible to protect each others property and security. Please lend your support to Mark's tireless efforts.

If you are interested in participating in the Neighborhood Watch, or want to assist in any way, please contact Mark Johnson at: (H) 460-9898 - (W) 473-3369--E-Mail: [mjohnson12@sprynet.com](mailto:mjohnson12@sprynet.com)

*Jim McElligott*

## PROPOSED ZONING CHANGE IS BAD FOR OCEAN PARK

MARK JOHNSON

The Planning Commission is considering a proposal to "Include Garages and other covered parking structures in determining the floor area of single family dwellings, duplexes and semidetached dwellings in the R-5D (SD) and R-5R (SD) zoning districts " within the Shore Drive Corridor Overlay District.

The target of this proposal is the 2 unit condominiums being built in Ocean Park. Proponents of the proposal feel that it will reduce density. This will not reduce density because it will not reduce the ability to build 2 unit condominiums. It will only reduce the size of the condos to be built.

An example of how this will affect new condos to be built is as follows. A lot 50'X 125' would presently allow for two 2,187 sq. foot condos, not including garage space. The new proposal would require the garage space, say 275 sq. feet (1 car garage) to be included in the total square footage. The result is the sq footage of the living area would be reduced from 2,187 sq. ft. to 1912 sq. ft. per unit.

The effect of this proposal, if adopted, will be detrimental to Ocean Park for the following reasons:

**elimination of garages**-Builders will eliminate garages in order to build larger condos-As a result, there will be more cars on our narrow streets.

**exterior stairs**- Instead of "spacious and open" entrance foyers, builder will need to utilize exterior steps and 2nd level entrances. The result will not be attractive.

**reduction in quality and design**-Lower quality condos will be built due to the a reduction of the allowable square footage. Reducing the size of the units to be built will mean that builders will sell them for less money, forcing them to cut corners and use "cheaper" products. Design and appeal will be affected.

**reduction in values**-All owners of vacant lots or properties suited to be demolished will be affected.

Ocean Park is a neighborhood in transition. It is being transformed from a neighborhood of beach cottages, old bungalows, post war cinderblock homes and rental duplexes to a more upscale neighborhood of luxury homes and condos. For the most part, the condos being built are of good quality and design. Values have increased tremendously over the past 5 years because buyers have discovered that Ocean Park is a great neighborhood. Ocean Park has the potential to become an upscale beach community, offering a variety of housing to our residents.

Reducing the size of these condos will not stop them from being built. It will simply affect the quality and appearance of that which will be built. This size limitation will limit the potential of our neighborhood. Does Ocean Park want to return to the days of low quality, unattractive rental duplexes or proceed into the 21st century as an attractive, upscale neighborhood of quality homes and condominiums?

**A MESSY NEIGHBORHOOD?  
NO WAY!**

Vacant lots and pathways to the beaches still look trashy. Let's all make an effort to cleanup these eyesores before the new growth of spring covers the decaying litter and unsightly junk.

**KEEP OUR  
COMMUNITY  
CLEAN**



**PARTY TIME**

Our Social Committee consisting of **Jackie Longworth, Kay Barbini and Diane Trimble** are working diligently to give us an end of year social. The proposed weekend dates are as follows:

June 19-20, 1999      June 26-27, 1999      July 10-11, 1999

The location can be either *Lock Haven Neighborhood Park* at East Stratford Road & Dinwiddie Road (South side of Shore Drive), or on the beach. Please come to the May meeting and help us determine a date and location which will accommodate everyone's needs. We will need volunteers to assist with preparations and whatever. If you are interested in helping in some manner, please call **Jackie Longworth at: 460-4025**. We have not had a social in a long while. I feel it's a great time to celebrate our accomplishments and meet new members.

*Jim McElligott*

**DUES ARE ALWAYS DUE!**

Membership dues of five (\$5.00) per year are used for civic league expenses, which are minimal. We urge you to support your civic league. If you are not a member, or you have not paid your dues within the past year, please take a moment to fill out the application form and send it with your dues to our treasurer, **Ms. Betty Wood**.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

PHONE..... RENT..... OWN..... YEARS in OP.....

Areas of Interest in Ocean Park Civic League(check off

Newsletter contributions.....

Crime Watch committee.....

Newsletter distribution.....

New development.....

Refreshments, civic league meetings.....

Zoning.....

Social events committee.....

Mail this Application with your dues, Five (\$5.00), to Ocean Park Civic League (OPCL)

P. O. Box 55385, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23455-5385