



*Spring 2006*

# *Church Point Post*

*Homeowners Association Quarterly Newsletter*

## **Annual Church Point Yard Sale Set for June 3**

Mark your calendar for Saturday, June 3. That's the date for this year's community-wide yard sale. Individual yard sales are not permitted under the Church Point covenants, but the Homeowners' Association sets aside one Saturday a year for residents to clean out the attic, garage, and closets and offer those treasures for sale.

The sale will run from **8 am to 1 pm**. There is always a good turnout for this event, so set up early ... and good luck! Any questions should be directed to Kim Creamer, 460-5611.



## **Landscape Lighting Enhances Main Church Point Entrance**

If you've driven in through the main Church Point entrance after dark recently, you have certainly noticed the new lighting effects that provide a dramatic and inviting entrance-way. During one weekend in February, the HOA Board did a test to see if more lighting would create a more attractive night-time entrance to Church Point. The Board subsequently decided to go ahead with this enhanced lighting, using Bec-Mar Lighting and Irrigation to do the work. This is the company that also handles maintenance of the sprinkler system for the common areas in Church Point.

The Board thinks that this project, along with the removal and replacement of the dying photenia along First Court Road, will provide an even better "first impression" of Church Point. Because there is no readily-available electrical outlet near the Mews entrance, we are still exploring options for lighting those signs.

## **President's Corner**

By Tom Fitzgerald, HOA President

Dear Homeowners:

Welcome to spring time at Church Point; once again it is the prettiest time of the year. Thank you for maintaining your homes and landscape for the benefit of us all. I hope you have noticed the new lighting the BOD has installed at the main entrance to further enhance our appearance. We are looking into the possibility of installing some additional lighting at the Mews entrance depending on the availability of electrical power.

As many of you are aware the Photenia (Red-Tips) along the approaches to Church Point have been deteriorating because of disease and some automobile accidents. The BOD has been spraying these shrubs for several years approximately 4 to 6 times each year to control the disease. This expense has been borne by the HOA as being in the best interest of the entire community. The actual replacement of these shrubs is however a more costly endeavor.

There are several legal issues associated with a replacement program that include obligations under the existing covenants for the BOD, the responsibilities of individual homeowners along First Court Road, the role of all other homeowners, the City of Virginia Beach and the power, gas and cable company Rights of Way and easements, and any obligations of the City and power company. The BOD attorney has offered his opinion and we will be sending a formal statement outlining the BOD position to all homeowners in the next mailing for HOA dues.

Enjoy the Spring.

## Neighborhood Watch – by LaTanya Cole

Don't you just love the Spring season? Unfortunately, so do the bad guys. Along with the warmer weather and pollen comes more solicitors and consequently more crime. I know some solicitors are welcome (i.e. The Girl Scouts, Cox High sports teams and Hot Tuna restaurant selling discount cards, etc.), but most are not – note the signs at the two main entrances to CP which in my opinion means, No Soliciting...**Go Away!** The main purpose of the signs is to keep as many solicitors out of the area as possible; if we reduce foot traffic, we reduce crime.

In case you didn't know, the City of Virginia Beach actually sanctions solicitors. Those that do solicit in the city must apply, pay a fee, and then receive a permit. If someone that you are not expecting comes to your house and you choose to open your door (hint-you don't have to!), here is what to do. Before they finish their spiel, ask to see their “ permit to solicit in Virginia Beach” . If they do not have one or act like they do not know what you are talking about say, “ Sorry, I' m not allowed to talk to solicitors without that permit, you must leave my property and the neighborhood or I will call the police” . Next, close and lock the door. That' s it. Please do not feel guilty for NOT allowing someone to take up YOUR time selling a product that you probably do not want. If you see that they do not leave the neighborhood, call the non-emergency police number 427-5000 and tell them that you “ live in the Church Point section of Virginia Beach and there are solicitors here without the proper permit.” Be prepared to give a description of the person(s) to the operator or the police officer that comes out.

Why am I so “ anti-solicitor” ? Well, besides solicitors taking up my time, all solicitors are not created equal. While some of the businesses that they promote are legitimate, some are not. Some people just knock on your door to see if you' re home, if you live alone, the time of day you are home, what you have in your home, etc. Some will sell you magazines or just flat out ask you for money for their college expenses, then come back and rob your home when you are away. Other solicitors just need an excuse to be in the neighborhood. They are checking out the cars on the street and in the driveway and if there is anything valuable in them to take. \*Bonus if car is unlocked and there are valuables out in the open. \*\*Double bonus, if you have just come from the store, your garage door is open and your purse or wallet is still in the car. Is the picture becoming clearer?

Until all solicitors develop severe allergies, we will unfortunately have to deal with this nuisance in the Spring as well as any warm weather. It will be an ongoing battle, but if all of us consistently refuse to talk to solicitors, we will see a reduction in them coming to the neighborhood as well as a continued low-crime level. Also, let' s take a look at some of our behaviors like leaving car doors unlocked and valuables on the seat in plain view. We' ve been doing okay, let' s do better. Let' s stop making it easy for the criminals. Finally, even though we are not in Kansas, Dorothy, we can all enjoy Girl Scout cookies.

Please visit CPNW on the Church Point web page at [www.churchpointonline.com](http://www.churchpointonline.com). Click on the “ Team” link at bottom to reach the Committee Page, then CPNW. There you will find out all about CPNW, crime prevention tips (to be updated periodically), as well as a registration form if you haven' t already joined.



## Your Church Point Babysitting Resource

Many residents have asked about the availability of babysitters here in Church Point, so we have started this feature in the *Church Point Post* as a service. Please help us add to the list by letting us know of any babysitters in your household (email [nealcurtin@cox.net](mailto:nealcurtin@cox.net)). Here is the current list:

**Kate Hamilton** – Age 13 -- 363-2829

**Emma Hamilton** – Age 12 (has completed the Red Cross Babysitters Course) -- 363-2829

### *A Big Thank You to My Church Point Neighbors*

*Thank you to all my neighbors for contributing to my Girl Scout Gold Award project last winter. With your help and generosity, I was able to sew and fill 95 bags of toiletry items. I took the bags to the Dwelling Place and earned my Gold Award this past fall!!! Thank you for your terrific support.*

# Church Point Garden Club

By Joan Curtin, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President of the Garden Club



Spring has sprung and we have begun a new year of recognizing the efforts of our homeowners who have created a landscape of distinction with the "Landscape of the Month." We alternate the monthly award between three neighborhood areas, The Quays & Commons East, The Commons & Bishops Court and The Mews. In April, the "Landscape of the Month" was bestowed in The Quays & The Commons East area to **Jenny and Nick Jacovides at 1705 Church Point Court**. The Mews will be the focus of the May award; The Commons & Bishops Court in June and back to The Quays & The Commons East in July.

The Church Point Garden Club is winding up another busy year. After many years of wrapping *hundreds* of pine seedlings every March for delivery to Virginia Beach Public School third graders, the Council of Garden Clubs of Virginia Beach substituted a delivery of 2 button bushes to each Virginia Beach school for planting on the school property. Our members delivered bushes to four of our local schools: Thoroughgood, Old Donation, Shelton Park and Bayside. Many of our members also participated in creating centerpieces for the "Empty Bowls" fundraiser at Virginia Wesleyan College on March 17, and decorated the living room at Francis Land House for Historic Garden Week (April 22-29).

As mentioned in the following article, the Virginia Cooperative Extension is encouraging residents to plant an *America's Anniversary Garden*. Therefore, at the beginning of May we will be planting red, white and blue petunias at the entrances to Church Point.

## Celebrate America's Anniversary!

In 2007, Virginia will mark the 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Jamestown, the first permanent English settlement in the Americas. The 18-month long commemoration begins in May 2006 and will feature educational programs, cultural events, fairs, and various live and broadcast entertainments sponsored by Virginia and cities and towns across the commonwealth. As part of this celebration, Virginia Tech and Virginia State University, through the Virginia Cooperative Extension, have developed the "America's Anniversary Garden" program to help individuals, companies, and groups mark the event with special garden plantings.



The idea is to create "red, white, and blue" gardens all across the state. The group's website includes ideas for layouts and specific plants – perennials and annuals – that go together well and have the appropriate colors. There are even ideas for container plantings for those who don't have space for a full garden.

The Church Point Garden Club will participate in the celebration starting this summer with red, white, and blue flowers planted around the entrances to Church Point. It would be great to have Church Point ablaze in the patriotic colors for the next 18 months, so we encourage residents to try a red, white, and blue theme for your annual flower plantings. For more information, check out the web site [www.ext.vt.edu/americasgarden](http://www.ext.vt.edu/americasgarden). The official Jamestown 400<sup>th</sup> anniversary web site is [www.americasanniversary.com](http://www.americasanniversary.com).

# January Fire at Bayville Golf Club Prompted Concerns

The following letter was sent out to members of Bayville Golf Club subsequent to a fire that was started on Friday night, the 20th of January:

January 24, 2006

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Bayville Members

FROM: Dusty Rhodes, Chairman, Green Committee  
Jim Steiger, Chairman, Golf Committee

SUBJECT: Recent Vandalism on Hole No. 10

We wanted to inform the members of Bayville of some recent vandalism that occurred to hole number 10 on January 20, 2006. Last Friday evening, several individuals set fire to a portion of the right rough at approximately 8:30 p.m. Fortunately, the staff of Bayville was present to call the Fire Department, and there will be no long-term damage to the golf course, as it will grow back naturally when the bermuda becomes active in the spring.

This is a serious issue, as such criminal activity could cause catastrophic damage to areas adjacent to Bayville. If a northerly wind had been present, there is reason to believe that the fire could have spread through the tree line and into the residential area of Church Point. This is not the first instance of vandalism that we have observed in the area of the 10<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> tees.

Presently, there is an active, ongoing investigation. We are optimistic that the perpetrators responsible for this act will be apprehended.

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## Church Point Directory Update

As we learn of new residents moving into Church Point, we will provide information in the Newsletter so you can update your Church Point Directories. Here is the information on new residents since the first of the year:

## Like Losing An Old Friend by Tom Fitzgerald

*I'm sure most of you have noticed that the large oak tree on Church Point Road was taken down recently. It was a real landmark near the Gazebo entrance, but unfortunately it was seriously damaged and the owners felt they had no choice. Tom Fitzgerald, HOA president, asked that we print the following letter explaining the situation:*

To Church Point Residents: I have received some calls today, 18 Feb 2006, concerning the removal of a very large tree on the property of a homeowner on Church Point Road. The tree was removed with the full knowledge of the Board of Directors. The owner contacted our management company SELECT asking for approval to remove the tree because of falling limbs and concern for the soundness of the entire tree. Our policy is to try and save as many trees as we can; while at the same time we are primarily concerned with the safety of people and property. In keeping with our procedures, before we authorize the removal of such a large tree within Church Point we bring in a certified arborist to inspect the tree. The arborist determined that the tree was hit by lightning several years ago and had received significant damage. With significant limbing of the tree and vigorous root treatment the deterioration could be slowed down and it might be salvageable. As the homeowner was to bear the entire cost of trying to salvage the tree or remove it, the BOD left that decision up to the homeowner who had to consider, along with the cost, the risk to his family and property. The BOD appreciates the opportunity provided by the homeowner to consider options to save the tree.



As stated earlier our policy is to save trees where practical. In the recent past we have had 11 large trees suggested for removal along the carriage path on common property. Upon inspection by the arborist it was recommended that only three trees be removed and that the others could be saved. We removed the three trees, saved 8 trees and saved a substantial amount of money.

## Reminder: Drive 25!

Please slow down when driving in Church Point. The speed limit throughout the development is 25 mph, and it is being enforced! With the nice spring weather, children and adults are out on the streets throughout the day. Mornings are a popular walking and jogging time, and after school and evenings are especially active. Please don't let a moment's carelessness cause a tragedy.

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**Preschool Openings this Fall**

**9:00am - 12:00**

2-day  
3-day  
5-day programs

**Old Donation Episcopal Day School**  
4449 N. Witchduck Rd. Va. Beach 23455

Call anytime for a Tour!  
499-2283 [odeds@olddonation.org](mailto:odeds@olddonation.org)



**Church Point Homeowners Association**  
**Newsletter Committee**  
**P. O. Box 55151**  
**Virginia Beach, VA 23455**

## **Church Point Community Bulletin Board**

- If you were particularly pleased with a contractor for any repairs or upgrades on your home or yard, recommend them to your fellow residents in this newsletter. Send your recommendations to [nealcurtin@cox.net](mailto:nealcurtin@cox.net). See the winter newsletter for the info and format.
- Want to advertise your business to your Church Point neighbors? We accept ads as small as a business card up to a full page. If you are interested in placing an ad in a future newsletter for a nominal fee (to help defray the cost of printing and mailing the newsletter), please contact Ali Mercer at Select Group or email [nealcurtin@cox.net](mailto:nealcurtin@cox.net). We'll send you a form with prices and other information you'll need. The form is also available at our website, [www.churchpointonline.com](http://www.churchpointonline.com) in the "Ads" section. Newsletters are currently published around the end of January, April, July, and October.

### **2006 HOA Board of Directors**

President:	Tom Fitzgerald	<a href="mailto:thomasfitzgerald1@cox.net">thomasfitzgerald1@cox.net</a>
Vice-President:	Neal Curtin	<a href="mailto:nealcurtin@cox.net">nealcurtin@cox.net</a>
Treasurer:	Jack Steele	<a href="mailto:PSteele@CB-pro.com">PSteele@CB-pro.com</a>
Secretary:	Peggy Carnes	<a href="mailto:pscarnes@cox.net">pscarnes@cox.net</a>
At-Large:	Justin Keenan	

### **HOA Management Company**

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