

Spring 2007

Church Point Post

Homeowners Association Quarterly Newsletter

Church Point Community Yard Sale Set for Saturday, May 5

Church Point's annual Yard Sale will be Saturday, May 5 from 8 am to 1 pm. If past years are an indicator, the crowds of shoppers will be large and they will arrive early. Kim Creamer is Yard Sale Coordinator. She reports that an ad will be placed in the paper one week before the event, and there will be signs posted near the entrances to point visitors to both ends of the development. The rest will be up to you!

Individual yard or garage sales are prohibited by Church Point's covenants, but residents requested a few years ago that we set aside one day a year for a community-wide sale, and the HOA Boards have adopted that as a reasonable approach. It's been very popular and well attended.

Kim prepared some tips for residents participating in the event. See the item on page 5 of this Newsletter. If you have any questions about the event, contact Kim at 460-5611.



President's Corner

By Neal Curtin, HOA President

I had some items prepared to include in my President's Corner for this issue, but after the tragic events at Virginia Tech on April 16, those items seemed pretty mundane and trivial. I just wanted to take a moment to express what all of us are probably feeling – shock, frustration, sorrow, confusion – over an incomprehensible act of brutality.

Just driving down the streets of Church Point (especially on a football Saturday!) it is obvious that we have a great many Tech alumni as neighbors. There is certainly one very large neighbor -- a former defensive tackle for Tech, the Bills, and the Redskins -- living down on the river. Some of us have or had children attending Tech. My wife and I have two sons who are Tech alumni. So all of this really hits home, and it has been gratifying to see how people across the country, and even around the world, have embraced the sorrow of the VT community. It really hit me at church the Sunday after the shootings, when our pastor read a letter he received from a parishioner. The parishioner's son is a bio-chemical engineering major at Tech and should have been in one of the classrooms that was attacked – but he overslept and was late for class. By the time he got to Norris Hall, police had closed off the building. He said he had never been late for that class all year until that day, and he always sat in the front row. Half the students in his very specialized major were killed that day. He said the support of family, friends, church, and community has been amazing and invaluable.

I know a lot has already been written about this, and I have no special wisdom to offer. But I guess the message I would pass on is to celebrate life and embrace all that life brings – including sometimes the awful emotions of April 16.



Neighborhood Watch – by LaTanya Cole

It is time for our annual update! We need to maintain at least 80% membership to keep our Neighborhood Watch designation. The block captains will be coming around in May and updating each homeowner individually. Feel free to make it easier for them by calling or e-mailing him or her with your name, street and e-mail address as well as contact phone numbers. This information is never given out or sold outside of the Church Point Neighborhood Watch or HOA.

In a previous newsletter, I repeated information heard from previous conversations with the police "...to solicit in Church Point, one must have a permit from the City of Virginia Beach." This statement was made in error. I have since been corrected by block captain Doyle Quisenberry and this was confirmed by our police liaison MPO Leta Krieser. Because we have a sign posted, **THERE IS NO SOLICITING IN Church Point with or without a permit.** If anyone approaches you and/or your home, while in this neighborhood, refer them to the HOA sign posted at both entrances. If they refuse to leave, call the police non-emergency number 385-5000.

Don't forget... say NO to solicitors and YES to CPNW!



“Only Rain ... Down The Storm Drain”

You may not have noticed the small blue medallions that appeared recently on many of the storm drains in Church Point (see the photos at right taken on Church Point Road), but the city of Virginia Beach wants you to pay heed. As part of the campaign to clean up the Lynnhaven River and Chesapeake Bay, the local governments are urging everyone to do their part.

One big emphasis in the campaign is to limit what goes down the drains. Those storm drains in the streets lead directly into local water systems which wind up in the river or bay. As the signs say, they are designed to collect only rain water – not grass clippings, yard waste, trash, etc. These pollutants can clog the drain or flow into the bay and upset oxygen levels.

A website called Clean Water Campaign offers these other cautions on how residences can inadvertently cause water pollution:

- Improper disposal of fertilizer, pesticides, and herbicides can lead to the exposure of excessive nutrients that discharge into receiving waters (lakes, rivers, streams, and creeks).
- Servicing or repairing your car or truck at home can result in pollution if you let motor oil or other vehicle fluids leak onto the driveway where they can be washed away by the rain, and severe water pollution can occur if these oils and fluids are dumped in a drainage ditch or storm drain.
- Washing your vehicle on the driveway or street allows a perfect opportunity for the soapy water and other cleaning chemicals to make their way down the street into a storm drain and the nearest stream.

Ali Mercer Leaving Select Group

Allison Mercer of The Select Group has announced that she is leaving her job at the end of April. She and her fiancé are moving to Delaware. Ali has been our HOA Manager for the past 2 years, and we will miss her hard work and dedication.

Select has announced that Gayle Pinero will be our new Manager. Her email and phone number are shown in the box on the last page of the newsletter.

Church Point Garden Club

By Joan Curtin, 1st Vice-President of the Garden Club



Spring has sprung a little later than normal in Virginia Beach this year, so we will begin a new year of recognizing the efforts of our homeowners who have created a landscape of distinction with the “**Landscape of the Month**” award in May. We alternate the monthly award between three neighborhood areas, **The Quays & Commons East, The Commons & Bishops Court** and **The Mews**. The Commons & Bishops Court will be the focus of the May award; The Mews in June and back to The Quays & Commons East in July.

The Church Point Garden Club is winding up another busy year. We helped create table centerpieces for the “**Empty Bowls**” fundraiser for the Southeastern Foodbank held at Virginia Wesleyan College on March 23, and decorated the living room at Francis Land House for **Historic Garden Week** (April 23-28). Our end-of-year luncheon will be held at The Lucky Star Restaurant on May 1st.

Our Club is very proud of the “America’s Anniversary Garden” award we received from the Council of Garden Clubs of Virginia Beach last year. Being recognized in the Winter 2007 issue of *Beach Magazine* was the icing on the cake. The pansies that were planted last Fall have perked up again this Spring, but will soon be replaced with our summer annuals.

Our monthly meetings are moving to the **second Thursday** of the month starting in September. If you would like to join us next year, or have any questions about the Garden Club, please call me at 460-6493 or Suzie Duckworth at 363-1050.

For The Birds...!

Here's some advice from the Garden Club for aiding our feathered friends:

- Clean and replace water in bird baths once a week
- Use tube feeders for small birds
- Cardinals like to eat off the ground; they like black oil sunflower seeds & safflower seed
- Birds do not digest bread very well as it balls up into a lump – tossing bread into your yard can draw raccoons, rats, seagulls, and other undesirable creatures

New Landscaping Contractor Begins Work

Valley Crest has begun its first year as our new lawn and landscaping contractor. They performed weeding, mulching, bush and tree trimming, and spring clean-up in March and began weekly mowing in April. Their manager has told us that Friday will be their normal mowing day throughout the rest of the year. (You may have noticed that they did not mow the second week in April; they put down weed killer that week, so they had to wait before mowing again).

The Board members, Select Group, and our Landscaping Committee will all be keeping tabs on the contractor’s work, so we can make sure we are getting good value for our money. There may be some start-up issues as the new contractor learns about the various common areas and property lines, but we think these will be minimal and we will try to address them with the contractor promptly.

Under a separate contract (paid for solely by Bishop’s Court residents), Valley Crest has done the landscaping work in Bishop’s Court for several years; that work is generally done on Wednesdays.

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Memory Keeping at Its Best

Let's Have a Safe Summer!



Warm weather has arrived and the end of the school year is right around the corner, and that means that more Church Point residents will be out on the streets walking, running, blading, or biking. While good driving is important all year long, it becomes especially crucial this time of year when more people have to share the roads. Children are especially vulnerable, and drivers have a real responsibility to exercise caution and good judgment. This means obeying the **25 mph speed limit** in Church Point. And don't forget other driving laws – including stopping at stop signs!

Gazebo Undergoing Major Renovation

Work will be underway shortly to repair a key Church Point landmark. The gazebo at the main entrance on Church Point Road has developed some “middle age” problems as it nears 15 years old. We were ready to contract for some routine painting and touch-up, but as we took a closer look at it, it was apparent that paint alone would not fix the problems. The biggest problem – wood rot stemming from a leaking roof. Turns out the flat roof that holds the cupola on top of the gazebo was leaking. The rubber seal that is supposed to prevent leaks was damaged. This may go back to Hurricane Isabel in 2003, but it took a while for the leaks to show themselves. The photos show some of the damage close-up. (You can see it better in color on our www.churchpointonline.com website.)

The roof repair will require removing the cupola temporarily to reseal the flat part of the roof. The inner ceiling of the gazebo will have to be completely removed and replaced. In addition, many of the railings are in bad shape, and some wood will have to be replaced before painting. We also noted that some of the electrical outlets and ceiling lights may need to be replaced or repaired. The good news -- it appears that the basic foundation structure and flooring is still solid. Since so much work is being done, we will probably also include power washing and staining the floor. The end result should be a like-new structure that we can all be proud of and that should last for many more years as a distinctive community symbol.

Oh, the other good news: even though these repairs will cost several thousand dollars, money has been set aside in our reserve fund over the years to cover this type of facility repair and replacement, so we don't anticipate any need for additional funding.



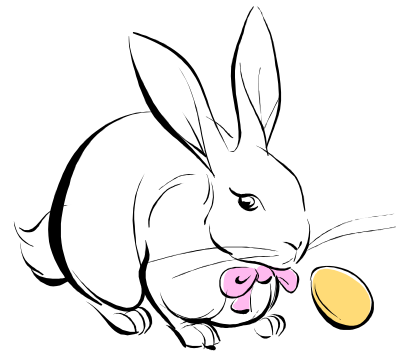
Getting Ready for Your Yard Sale

by Kim Creamer

- ✓ Put prices on your items for sale or group them by price. (Retailers sell pre-printed yard sale price stickers!)
- ✓ Be prepared for those that come early! However, only begin the sale if you choose to do so!
- ✓ Put an indicator (i.e. balloon or sign) near the front of your driveway to indicate you are participating.
- ✓ Have a collection of grocery bags or boxes ready for your customers to carry away things they buy.
- ✓ Set your items for sale together and clearly away from anything not for sale.
- ✓ Put same types of things in the same area -- all the kitchen items together, all the gardening things together, all the clothes, toys, tools, etc. near items of same type.
- ✓ Set up a change fund to start.
- ✓ Most importantly, enjoy the company of neighbors and friends!

Church Point Egg-Stravaganza!

Kristen Carter, our resident “eggspert,” reports that 63 children from toddlers to 9-year olds participated in Church Point’s annual Spring Egg Hunt held at the gazebo park on April 1. Each child gathered almost a dozen eggs each! One lucky winner found the golden egg containing a five dollar bill; others found plastic eggs full of candy and spring trinkets. Everyone got a juice box and special seasonal –decorated cookies. A few kids even got tattoos – no piercings, though. Thanks to Farm Fresh for donating some of the food items. The weather cooperated and everyone seemed to have a great time. If you want to help next year with egg-stuffing or passing out flyers, contact Kristen at 313-6111.



Shore Drive Construction Due for Completion This Summer

If you are a regular Shore Drive user, you’ve no doubt noticed (as you sat in traffic jams) the ongoing construction along the stretch of the road on either side of the First Court road intersection. Here’s how the VB city website describes the project:

This project is for the enhancements of Shore Drive from Treasure Island to Marlin Bay Drive. Improvements will include additional turn lanes within a 150’ right-of-way and upgraded signalization at the intersections of First Court Road and Marlin Bay Drive. The intersections will also be aesthetically enhanced to include extensive landscaping, multi-use paths and sidewalks. Sidewalk improvements have been designed for the North side of Shore Drive. Funding for these improvements will need to be identified.

The project is billed as a “Demonstration Project,” and is scheduled to be finished by the end of July 2007 (we’ll see!), at a budgeted cost of about \$4.6 million.



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 npchurchpoint@cox.net). Also, help us keep the list current by updating ages and removing anyone who no longer wants to be considered. Here is the current list:

Name	Age	Phone	Info
Christina Baddar	12	226-9950	Red Cross Babysitters course; certified in child and infant CPR
Alexa Go	16	460-2976	Experienced; references available
Jane Go	14	460-2976	Experienced
Emma Hamilton	12	363-2829	Red Cross Babysitters course
Kate Hamilton	13	363-2829	
Jennifer Morben	14	464-0232	Experienced; Red Cross Babysitters course
Brian Murphy	13	464-0232	

No Motorized Vehicles Permitted on Common Land

Residents have reported that some people are riding motorized scooters, ATVs, and even a golf cart in the Commons Park and on other Church Point common land. This is strictly prohibited – both for safety reasons and for protection of the environment. These vehicles can cause considerable damage to the ground, trees, and shrubs in the parks -- not to mention the noise pollution in our residential areas. Please make sure your children respect the rules for use of the common areas.

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Kudos to Church Point Residents!

Let us hear from you if family members or neighbors achieve notable milestones. We'll use this column to recognize our friends and neighbors. It's not a competition – just a way to build community spirit!

🏌️ Richie Salter of Meeting House Lane was a member of the Cox High School golf team that won the 2006 VHSL State Championship for Golf this past fall. Jonathan Harris, who lives on Timber Ridge, was also on the team. The team was recognized at the Virginia Beach City Public Schools' monthly Board meeting on February 6, 2007, in a ceremony that was broadcast live on VBTV Channel 47. (Submitted by Barbara Salter)



Contractor Compliments – for a job well done!

From time to time in the newsletter, we have provided some recommendations from homeowners about contractors they have used for various projects around the house and grounds. There were no new ones the past few months, so I thought it might be useful to reprint a compilation of all the recommendations we have received over the past year and a half. Here they are below all in one place.

Please keep the recommendations coming as you experience good work. Many homeowners have said these have been useful for finding quality and value. Just email your recommendations in the form below to npcchurchpoint@cox.net.

Contractor	Recommended by	Type of Work	Comments
Coastal Lightscapes 572-7871	Joan Curtin	Landscape lighting	Quick, responsive, followed up, looks good!
Bec-Mar Lighting and Irrigation 535-2757	Neal and Joan Curtin Tom and Alice Fitzgerald	Fixed sprinkler system problem Installed new landscape lighting and repaired sprinkler system	Diagnosed and fixed problem quickly; saved money over other estimates Prompt, fair prices, accountable, stands by his work
Commonwealth Heating and Cooling (Dalton Dunbar)	Peggy and Steve Carnes	Replaced air conditioning unit	Came quickly, low bid, and completed work next day
Arrington Custom Painting (Jim Arrington)	Peggy and Steve Carnes	Painting	Low bid, and neat and timely job
Mr. Electric (Bill Roberson, owner)	Sergio and Maria Oehninger	Fixed backyard and pool lights	Punctual and decent price
Clear The Decks (Rob Coffin)	Sergio and Maria Oehninger	Odd jobs around the house	Good work and fair prices
Peak Construction Co. (Steve Palan, owner)	Arthur Rex and Sunni Jenkins	Kitchen remodeling	Quality product, responsible, and extremely reliable
Highland Carpet Cleaners (502-0287)	Doyle Quisenberry	Carpet cleaning	Extremely reliable, individual owner, very experienced
Greener Vision (Joe Mihalik 235-4174)	Doyle Quisenberry	Tree and shrub care (spraying)	Excellent service, individual owner
Green Scene (Mike Ogden 749-7400)	Doyle Quisenberry	Lawn care	Individual owner, 18 yrs. experience
Borden Security (Glen Borden 454-8890)	Doyle Quisenberry	Home security, monitored locally	Individual owner, quick response
Southside Termite (Scott 589-0233)	Doyle Quisenberry	Termite inspection	Very reliable and honest
MSCO Heating & Cooling (Jeff 427-0016)	Doyle Quisenberry	HVAC services	Have used them for 16 years; very satisfied, this company is customer oriented

Newsletter Committee
P. O. Box 55151
Virginia Beach, VA 23455

Church Point Community Bulletin Board

- Many of the articles in this issue were suggested by Church Point residents. If you have ideas for articles in future newsletters, we would like to hear from you. Send your recommendations to npcchurchpoint@cox.net.
- 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 npcchurchpoint@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 in the "Ads" section. Newsletters are currently published around the end of January, April, July, and October.
- Past issues of the *Church Point Post* are available on-line at the Church Point web site (www.churchpointonline.com). You can get a PDF version in color.

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Vice-President:	Justin Keenan	justinkeenan2003@yahoo.com
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HOA Management Company

Select Group Phone 757 486-6000
Fax 757 486-4988
Association Manager: Gayle Pinero
gpinero@theselectgroup.us