

The Hampton-Pinckney Gazette

Preserving Our Neighborhoods

June 2000

Next Meeting Held At Sheriff's Candidate Forum

Neighborhoods United for Excellence (NUE), the coalition of city neighborhood associations, is sponsoring a candidates forum where the three men running for Greenville County Sheriff will be presenting their views on **Tuesday, May 30 at Earle Street Baptist Church from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.** Since this was the date that we previously announced would be the monthly (June) Hampton-Pinckney Association meeting and since several neighbors had previously suggesting conducting a meeting like this one on our own, the next regular meeting will be held in conjunction with the candidates forum. The forum will be an opportunity to ask questions like "Why would anyone want to be Sheriff?" and more importantly, "What services do City residents receive from the County Sheriff in exchange for the taxes they pay?" Any Hampton-Pinckney business that needs to be handled will be the subject of a very short, "huddle" meeting immediately following the forum. Please attend if you can.

The May meeting was held at the Center for Developmental Services. The Center will be holding their grand opening at 11:30 a.m. on May 30. If you cannot make the grand opening and would like to tour the facility please call Katy Smith, Executive Director, who would be glad to arrange a tour of the facilities.

Thanks for attending the May meeting: Bob Lloyd, Amy King, Kathy Anderson, George Bell, Robert Benedict, Tom Faulkner, Brad Wyche and

In this issue...

4th of July Party...Western Corridor...Grant for West Side...Traffic Calming...History Corner

Diane Smock, Sara and Eric Dellinger, Beth Burris, Courtney Shives, Kathleen Crispin, Margie Montgomery, Mr. & Mrs. Glenn Kennedy, Mary Duckett and guest, Anne and Jim Meyer, Melanie Wyatt, Katy Smith and Jennie Sharpe. bl & jb



Hunley Replica Will Be On Display At 4th Celebration

Through the good efforts of George Bell who gave a great slide presentation on the subject in January, a replica of the Confederate Submarine Hunley, which is being raised from the Charleston Harbor after 136 years at rest, will be on display at our 4th of July Celebration. The replica, which is mounted on the back of a tractor trailer truck, will be parked at a strategic location in the unit block (6 through 38) Pinckney Street, which will be closed on July 4 from no later than 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM. So, even with school out, you can learn something. -bl



July 4th Update

I hope everyone has invited family and friends to our annual July 4th neighborhood picnic and celebration. I'm sure all the neighborhood children and dog owners are racking their brains to come up with the best costumes for the parades. We are all looking forward to the festivities!

As you know, this year, we will be having fried

chicken instead of hamburgers and hotdogs. And the easiest way to make sure there is enough for everyone would be for each group to bring enough chicken for themselves plus half again as much (for example, if you have a group of six, bring enough for nine). The rest of the food will work the same as it has in previous years. Bring a beverage, a large bag of chips, and a covered dish or dessert (again, bring enough for your group plus half again as much).

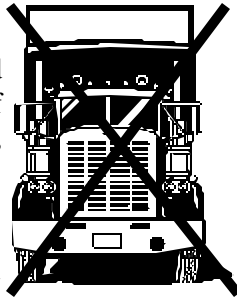
I would like to thank everyone who has stepped forward to volunteer and for those of you who still want to help, volunteers are still needed. Call Amy King at 298-0346 if you are interested. -ak

Chair	Amy King
Children's Games	Need volunteer
Permit	Bob Lloyd
Tables	Jay Kirkman/Bob Lloyd
Table Decorations	Kathy Anderson
Music/PA System	Need Volunteer
Paper Products	George Bell & Betti Wright
Commentary for Children's Parade	Need Volunteer
Judging & Awards For Children's Parade	Diane Smock & Anne Meyer
Dog Parade	Kathleen Crispin

“Traffic Calming” Is A Journey Not A Destination

As we approach the second anniversary of the first City of Greenville sponsored meeting (July 7, 1998) to solicit our input on "traffic calming" and to appoint a committee to help draft measures to achieve it, one can only conclude, relying on the lingo of Oprah and Sally Jesse, that traffic calming is a journey not a destination. Continued sustained effort and monitoring by committee members has yielded some modest gains on the 16 recommendations that were made to the City in January 1999. Here are the most recent developments:

* Interim City Manager Ron McKinney is planning to request City Council approval of a request to the SC Department of Transportation (SCDOT) to release Hampton Avenue and possibly a portion of Hudson Street from the state road system. Assuming Council approves that move, this would enable the City to implement some of the physical changes (humps and/or medians and closure) that have been



sought but that the State has refused to approve. Support for this position was shown by more than 20 neighborhood residents (including some very young ones) who attended the City Council meeting on May 8. Thanks to all those who took the time to show up and drag along many of the little reasons why we keep working on this.

* One way traffic on Lloyd Street from Asbury to Washington was made effective on May 19. New signs and lane markings were installed and, after some initial enforcement confusion, police officers are being stationed to turn people around and issue written warnings to violators.

* On May 3, Interim City Manager Ron McKinney, accompanied by George Bell and Bob Lloyd, met with three senior US Postal Service officials at the West Washington Street facility. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the neighborhood's traffic calming measures and to determine the impact, if any, that these would have on postal operations. The Postal Service representatives were very receptive and stated that there would be no adverse impact on their operations and thus no objections to implementation. Further evidence of their accommodating approach was a willingness on the part of the director of mail processing at the facility, Eddie Ball, to attend a future meeting with McKinney, Bell and Lloyd and representatives of King Express, whose facility on Echols Street and contractual relationship with the Postal Service is a major source of our "cut-through" truck traffic problem. Mr. Ball has indicated that the King Express contract is up for renewal, suggesting that a cooperative attitude may be forthcoming.

* Additional and more strategically placed "No Thru Trucks" signs have been installed at various intersections throughout the Traffic Calming target area--from Mulberry to Butler and Buncombe to Washington. This action fulfilled a commitment made by Mike Ridgway of the City's Traffic Engineering Department in April to reexamine these measures based on the committee's recommendation.

* Having tried everything else, including standing in the road, Anne Meyer has taken to making promotional buttons, urging people to "Protect City Neighborhoods--Calm Traffic Now." Mary Duckett, our committee col-

league from Southernside Neighborhoods in Action, wore her button to a recent City Council work session. The buttons are so distinctive that Mayor Knox White could not help but notice it and asked Mary about it. He has since been sent one for his very own use. (If you would like your very own button, please call Anne Meyer at 232-2154. They are \$1.00 each.) -bl

Revised "Western Corridor" Plans Reviewed

Some of the more intense activity associated with the widening and rerouting of SC Highway 183, not-so-affectionately known as the "Western Corridor" has died down.

However, the revised plans for the road which will extend from Academy Street, along Buncombe and into a new alignment shortly after James Street were disclosed at a Greenville City Council work session on Monday, May 22. The revisions are due, in no small part, to continued involvement and pressure by neighbors in the planning process that started back in 1995. While the plans retain the seven lane configuration that many neighbors believe is excessive, lane widths have been narrowed and numerous green space improvements have been instituted as part of medians or buffers to sidewalks. Previously, the SC Department of Transportation has agreed to a more moderate redesign of the intersection at Lloyd Street and Buncombe in part because of the changes that were instituted as part of the Traffic Calming process. The results are probably the best that could be hoped for under the circumstances and will help mitigate the obvious adverse impact that such a project can have. -bl

City's "BROWNFIELDS" Grant to Help West Side

The City of Greenville has received notification of the award of a \$200,000 Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) "Brownfields" grant that will enable it to evaluate the environmental contamination of former industrial sites on the west side of the city and along the Reedy River Corridor. The grant will provide resources to address real as well as perceived environmental issues as a component of the revitalization plans for the entire area. Our neighborhood association was among about a dozen groups that were solicited for input and support for the project, which was summarized at our February meeting. The City was one of 102 enti-

ties nationwide to receive the funding in a competitive process.

As part of the project, the City plans to form a steering group representing community organizations to help direct the project and to make suggestions and provide input about study sites. Our Association along with Southernside Neighborhoods in Action (SNIA) will be among those represented on the steering group. Activity is expected to begin soon and information will be shared through the Gazette and at our monthly meetings as it becomes available. -bl

Community Development and Relations Holds Public Hearing

On Tuesday, May 23, 2000 the Community Development and Relations Division for the City of Greenville held a public hearing to discuss the five-year plan for city-wide housing, living environment, and economic development issues particularly in low-to-moderate income neighborhoods. The Plan summary is available for review at the Greenville County Library and at the Community Development and Relations Division on the 6th floor of City Hall. Comments are welcome but must be made by Wednesday, June 21, 2000. For additional information call 467-4570. -jb



The History Corner

The history corner this month takes a look at recent history—the rehabilitation in 1979 and 1980 by Dorothy Clarke of her Queen Anne apartment house on Butler Avenue next to Bramlett Insurance. It is known as Butler Manor.



Many of us have experienced unique adventures with the rehabilitation of our homes and some of Dorothy's experiences may be similar to our own. However, Dorothy compiled a 17-page narrative shortly after completing the rehabilitation that provides a humorous and insightful view of her highs and lows with Butler Manor. Dorothy has loaned the story to the neighborhood and I'll be happy to provide a copy to interested readers.

Highlights of the story include the daughter of the original owner (Frank White) asking Dorothy "Why did you buy that old place? It never was much of a house." To the contrary, Dorothy persevered through the red-tape of subsidized financing, contractor problems and of course—thief problems. She held a "pre-renovation" party to show off her treasured real-estate investment and the newly planted tulips were stolen that day! She also lost her bathroom sinks, stained glass window, water heater and front door to thieves. Even her copper plumbing was stolen from under the house. Granted this was twenty years ago but this sounds familiar to many of us even today. There are three apartments within Butler Manor which have been residences for Furman faculty and other professionals. If it had not been for Dorothy, Butler Manor might have been razed like the homes on both sides were. Dorothy is a real friend of the neighborhood and has been a sponsor of this newsletter on several occasions. -rb

Historical Color Selection Easier Than Ever

It is that time of year again when our minds turn to the task of painting our houses. However, those of us within the historic districts have a tougher challenge to hurdle—we need to look at the colors of our homes in their historical context. Luckily, our paint stores have come to the rescue. Sherwin Williams, Benjamin Moore and others have developed historical, or period, paint palettes to help us make the correct decisions, for both inside and outside our homes.

Sherwin Williams has developed the Preservation Palette®, which spans color selections from the last 150 years. Their categories include: Postwar Romanticism (1945 to 1970), Craftsman (1890—1940), Classical/Colonial Revival (1800—today), Early Victorian (1835—1865) and Late Victorian (1865—1915).

For instance, we looked at our Eastlake Queen Anne, and from the Sherwin Williams exterior palette we decided upon a Downing Sand base and Downing Stone trim with a Rookwood Red accent.

One you decide on a paint color, it must be

submitted to the Design and Preservation Commission for approval. This process is now so much easier with these specialized palettes by taking the guesswork out of deciding if the paint colors match the style and period of your home and is quite painless! You can call Bryan Wood, Zoning Administrator, at 467-4476 to discuss with him the process of submitting your paint colors. And happy painting! - jb

Of Personal Interest

Honors pour down on neighbors...

Congratulations are in order for three Hampton-Pinckney residents who have been recognized for distinction. It was recently announced that Diane Smock (21 Pinckney Street) is one of ten upstate women who will receive the prestigious Order of the Jessamine, an award for outstanding achievement by Palmetto State women. Donna Kivett (213 Butler Avenue) was recently cited as one of Greenville's "Brightest and Best," an annual designation issued by Greenville Magazine. And Elliott Woods, daughter of Steve and Kathy Anderson (31 Pinckney Street), graduated with honors from the University of South Carolina on May 6. No men did anything of significance recently. -bl

Important Reminders

- ◆ The next neighborhood meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 5, 2000 at 7 p.m. at Central Baptist Church unless we have some pressing issues that warrant a meeting in August.
- ◆ Important phone numbers – Eric Lewis, Community Police Officer: Pager: 217-3188, Work: 271-5333, Mobile: 616-2275.
- ◆ The annual 4th of July Party will be held July 4th starting at 2 p.m.
- ◆ Be careful! There are still cars turning onto Lloyd street off of Buncombe and Washington.
- ◆ Don't forget to let Eric Lewis know if you are leaving town so that the police can check on your house while you are gone. - jb

Letter From the Editor

Lately I have been reading comments from community leaders and others concerning Greenville's attractions and amenities. Some of these people's comments would lead you to believe that other cities don't operate the way we do. They don't have such a committed group of leaders and volunteers who are striving to make this area the best place to live. They don't have mountains, lakes, beaches and farms within arms reach.

Although we don't like to pay taxes, we have some of the lowest taxes in the United States. The unemployment rate is so low that companies cannot find qualified workers to fill positions. The upstate of South Carolina and Western North Carolina have been dubbed "The best kept secret" in America. A woman from Brazil even decided to spend her vacation here instead of New York City. She mentioned that she loved the parks, the green trees, the restaurants and shopping. As someone who has lived here most of my life, it is easier for me to take all this for granted. We are so fortunate to have committed community leaders who are striving to keep the ambience of our area while allowing for growth. It will be interesting to see how the urban sprawl affects us. Let's hope that it can be controlled in some fashion or we may very well lose our "best kept secret in America".

Judy

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K & L

(Conner Kirkman and Keith Lloyd)
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- ◆ Animal Care—Washing, Walking and/or Feeding...Negotiable
- ◆ Babysitting—\$5 /hr for two children. Add \$2.50 for each add'l child.

Personal Info

Conner—I am 13 years old and I attend League Academy. I have lived in Greenville all my life. My hobbies are basketball, baseball, football, swimming, golfing and hanging out with my friends. I enjoy playing and watching after kids. I am a hard worker and always strive to get the job done.

Keith—I am 12 years old and I also attend League Academy. I have lived in Greenville for ten years. I was born in Washington, D.C. and move here at the age of two. My hobbies are roller-blading, baseball, basketball, tennis and football. I enjoy playing with kids.

Any questions call - 235-2432
To schedule a job call - 235-5340