



The Hampton-Pinckney Gazette

Preserving Our Neighborhoods

June '99

Jim Townsend Speaks at June Meeting

The next meeting of the Hampton-Pinckney Historic District will take place on Tuesday, June 1st, at 7 p.m. at Central Baptist Church (activities room - Lloyd Street entrance). We have invited the residents of the James Street Historic District as our guests. Jim Townsend, organizing principal of the Downtown Residential Neighborhood (DRN) and the City Action Neighborhood Network (CANN) will be our featured speaker. Jim has been an active supporter of our neighborhood and Greenville's best known advocate of the "Downtown" lifestyle. He is the past president of the Greenville Council of Architects, past Chair of the Board of Architectural Review and is currently serving on the boards of the Downtown Business Association, Downtown Transportation Master Plan and the advisory board to City Council's Economic Development Committee. Jim has been the "eyes and ears" for downtown residents on issues affecting all of us and is an interesting and informative speaker on the advocacy of sustainable growth. He is a candidate for the Greenville Water Commission in order to better serve the city's interests on the expansion of public utilities.

The May meeting consisted of a discussion of area crime, volunteers for 4th of July, and a brief synopsis of neighborhood concerns and their status. The head of the new Rescue Mission located on Washington Street was suggested as our September speaker.

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Thanks once again for attending a meeting: Becky and Larry Boyd, Lynda Morrison, Rev. Simpson, Bob Lloyd, Kathleen Crispin, Deborah and Keith Rodgers, Jeff and Tracy Tiddy, Lesley Fletcher, Eric Lewis, Lisa Hartnett, Anne, Jim and Jacob Meyer, Robert and Judy Benedict. -jb

Western Connector Destroying Homes

For decades, state and federal transportation policies have been blindly devoted to moving automobiles without regard to the character of the community or the historic resources affected by such policy. In an effort to promote inner city revitalization, transportation policies have traditionally disregarded or downplayed the impact of "connector" highway projects on adjacent neighborhoods. This will be the case with the Western Connector. It is time to reverse old biases and implement a transportation policy with this highway project whereas consideration is given to the impact on the adjacent neighborhoods.

Specifically, the proposed right-of-way for the Western Connector will cut a wide swath of destruction through an intact neighborhood with numerous historic resources - the blocks of Briggs Avenue and Frank Street.



Frank Street Residence



Buncombe Street Residence

This neighborhood still possesses historic character with Holmes Bible College (constructed in 1898) and a number of Queen Anne, Colonial Revival and Craftsman homes dating from the late Nineteenth and early Twentieth centuries.



Briggs Street Residence

This neighborhood has enough architectural and historical significance to be considered for listing as a local historic district. This opinion is shared by the South Carolina Department of Archives and History (SHPO). Brad Sauls of the SHPO visited this neighborhood recently and expressed concern over the plans for the Western Connector and the resulting impact. These photographs are of some of the historic homes on Briggs Avenue, Buncombe Road and Frank Street which would be demolished. -rb

Nighborhood Tackles Concerns

Lesley Fletcher asks that you call her with any neighborhood issues that involve anything with which the City can help. So far her report includes: 1) The alley behind Hampton Avenue and how to get it paved; 2) Dumping on the lot on Asbury at Hudson - No dumping signs have now been placed on this lot; 3) The building on Lloyd at Asbury - The City has purchased this building and hopefully it will be demolished soon; 4) Sidewalks - The City is conducting a new study to determine the condition of the City's sidewalks and to rank them according to worst to best. All we can do is cross our fingers on this one. Any other issues can be directed to Lesley at 467-4435. -jb

Last Chance to Help With 4th

This is your last chance to volunteer to help with the 4th of July Celebrations. Beth needs help with the Pet Parade and ribbons, the Children's Parade and ribbons, Children's games, a firebrick and fireman to open the fire hydrant, a microphone, the emcee (in previous years this has been Uncle Sam), setting up the tables from Central Baptist Church, and a place to go swimming after the event. Bob Lloyd is taking care of the permit to close Pinckney for the event and Beth has been working on the music. Other items needed will be table clothes, grills and food for the

grills. As in the past, everyone who attends brings chips, buns, drinks and side dish or dessert. This fun event will take place on Saturday 3rd. Donations will be accepted at the picnic to reimburse those who spent their own money to host this party. Look for flyers going out in June and call Beth Burris at 370-0085 to volunteer to help. -jb



Fox or Coyote?

It all started with a few of our pet cats being killed. Then, Kathy Anderson and her daughter Elliot, spotted what looked like a fox in their back yard. After a discussion with Lisa Hartnett, they discovered Lisa has spotted the same animal. Kathy decided to



A Grey Fox

call Animal Control because she wanted to know if this creature could be going after our animals. Animal Control placed a trap in Kathy's backyard but admitted that it was more likely that stray dogs are killing our cats. They even suggested that it could be a coyote.

After relaying this message to Robert, he was in disbelief that a coyote might be in our southeastern environment. So, after a little research on the Internet, I found out that coyotes had migrated into the southeast and foxes and coyotes were increasingly found in cities and the surrounding suburbs. An abundance of wild animals live in our city with many more fleeing in our direction due to the unrestricted urban sprawl in Greenville County. A fox will eat small birds, rodents and leftover food thrown out by all the area restaurants. A coyote, nothing more than a wild dog, will go after the larger house cats and smaller dogs that a fox would not be bothered to pursue. They are often mistaken for domestic dogs.

Should anyone spot the fox/coyote, do not approach it and tell your children to stay away from the animal and let you know if they see it. The grey fox is much more likely to carry rabies than a red fox, but since we do not know what the animal is it is much better to stay away from it. Please call Animal Control at 242-3626 if you spot any stray dogs or the mystery

animal. And, our condolences to those who have lost their cats.-jb

Clean-Up Great Success

On Saturday May 15th, we hit the streets and cleaned up the neighborhood! Larry Boyd purchased 50 bags from the Fire Department for a total of \$4.00 and we were on our way! We picked up trash on Lloyd, Pinckney, Butler, Hampton, Hudson and Asbury. Bob Lloyd even picked up a grocery cart which surely he returned to Bi-Lo! Afterwards, most of us retired to the Benedicts for lunch. Thanks to everyone for a great clean-up: Becky and Larry Boyd, Anne Meyer, Eric, Aaron and Max Englehardt, Beth Burris, Lynda Morrison, Keith and Austin Rodgers, Robert, Judy, Alexis and Hayley Benedict, George Bell (who carried Hayley in the backpack during the cleanup), Pete McCauley and Joe Simpson, Sara Dellinger, Bob Lloyd, Jamey, Amy and Jenny King, and Walter, Donna, Sarah and Conley Kivett. If you helped with the clean-up but did not check in with the rest of us, thanks for your help. As always, thanks to Jennie Garrett and Margie Montgomery who for both of them, everyday is neighborhood clean-up day. -jb



Neighborhood Crime

Watch



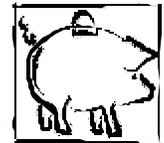
Eric Lewis, our Community Police Officer, spent a considerable amount of time at the podium at the May meeting of the Hampton-Pinckney Historic District. He wanted us to be aware of some gypsies (that apparently hail from Aiken) in Greenville. One will distract you while you are working in the yard while the others sneak into your house and rob you. Most of the recent crimes are in the Pelham and Augusta Road areas.

In April two burglaries occurred in our area but not within the historic district. Other concerns of the neighborhood involve a lot of stray dogs. Eric suggests calling Animal Control (242-3626) should you spot any stray dogs in the area. He also reminded us to make certain our animals have collars and tags because Animal Control will not hold onto an animal without a licensed tag.

For the month of May Eric works from 3 p.m. to 12 a.m. Every month his shift rotates to the next shift. If Eric is not the officer responding then call him (the next day if it is the middle of the night!) so he can give you a report of the outcome of the call. Also, if you would like him to watch your house while out of town, please let him know when you will be gone.-jb

Fund-raising Ideas

We missed out on our first round of a grant to upgrade our signage but this does not mean we need to wait for a grant to try to raise some matching funds. We have a few great ideas for raising money for the neighborhood: A Charles Dickens Christmas tied into the use of our Luminaries; Plaques for our front yards with the name of the house, date built, style of architecture to be used in conjunction with a walking tour brochure; And/or a calendar featuring homes in the neighborhood. Please think about these ideas for discussion at future meetings.-jb



The History Corner



Several years ago, while gathering research for a paper on the neighborhood, I had the pleasure of interviewing two former residents of the neighborhood. Both women offered interesting insights on their youth in the neighborhood and shared many anecdotes.

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Mrs. Lena Perrin was born in the late 1920's at 36 Pinckney Street. Her parents, the Glovers, built their Craftsman-style house in 1915 and her aunt and uncle lived next door at 38 Pinckney Street. Both families lived in their homes until the 1960's. Mrs. Perrin has many fond memories of growing up in the neighborhood such as:



36 Pinckney Street

“Farmers would go door-to-door offering fresh produce and dairy goods from the popular farms like Earle’s Dairy, Payne’s Dairy and Kirkendall’s Dairy.”

"The mail was delivered twice daily and it was common for the mailman to ring the doorbell when making the delivery."

"The newspaper also was delivered to the door with it placed inside either the front or back door."

"The popular grocery store for Hampton-Pinckney residents was Hudson's Grocery Store at the intersection of Buncombe Road and Rutherford Road. Mr. Hudson was a resident of Hampton-Pinckney and customer service was reciprocated with friendly service and home delivery via young delivery boys on their bicycles."

Another long-time neighbor with fond memories of the neighborhood was Ms. Lila Mae Brock who grew up on Echols Street. Ms. Brock passed away in recent years but was the mother of our City Council representative and fellow Hampton-Pinckney resident, Lillian Brock Fleming. Ms. Brock recalled the trolley car days of the 1920's and 1930's. She remembered riding the "Belt South" and "Belt North" trolley routes with her friends for five cents. As many as ten to fifteen children would ride together at one time and "would ride the cars everywhere." Ms. Brock enjoyed the closeness of the neighborhood and stated that the "people were good neighbors and everyone would help each other out." There are some things that haven't changed after all. - rb.



Greenville Trolley Car
Crossing The Reedy River,
circa 1925.

Of Personal Interest

Welcome to the neighborhood, Tracy and Jeff Tiddy, 38 Pinckney Street. Tracey and Jeff are expecting their first child in July.-jb

Important Reminders

C The next neighborhood meeting will be held in September. Please look for your newsletter in August for the date.

C Important phone numbers - Eric Lewis, Community Police Officer. Pager: 217-3188; Work 271-5333; Mobile: 616-2275.

Letter From the Editor

While driving around Greenville you will notice speed humps, white circles and oblongs painted on several roads. These painted areas are what is called Traffic Calming, where these residents will have a traffic circle or landscaped median to try to slow traffic driving through their neighborhoods. During the week of May 15th, the State was scheduled to respond to closing Hudson and the speed humps on Hampton Avenue. Don't throw up the white flag yet, as soon as the City lets us know the results we will then need to plan to attend the City Council meeting for the items that must be voted upon by the Council. I am so tired of hearing motorists on Hampton honking at the car in front of them to go faster, people "flooring" the accelerator to speed down the street, trucks and city vehicles using our streets as a cut-through, and the school buses and other cars that run through the four-way stop on Hampton (not to mention those that have driven through our yards!). Our Traffic Calming Committee has worked hard through this long and frustrating process to help curb traffic and noise. One child has been hit by a car but thankfully not seriously injured and we are lucky that with the 50+ children in the neighborhood that no one else has been hit. That is one accident too many for me, so we are urging City Council to approve our Traffic Calming plan (and are counting on our resident's support at the Council Meeting) so that we don't have any more accidents.

Judy

Thanks to Our Sponsor

This issue of *The Hampton-Pinckney Gazette* is sponsored by *The Greenville Journal*. - jb

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The Hampton-Pinckney Gazette is a monthly publication. All comments, letters or information to be included in the newsletter must be submitted in writing no later than five days prior to the monthly meetings. Editor:

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The Editor reserves the right to edit any material submitted.