

The Hampton-Pinckney Gazette

Preserving Our Neighborhoods

October 2000

Local Water Color Artist, Lynn Greer, At The October Meeting

Our next neighborhood meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 10, 7:00 p.m., at Central Baptist Church. The following agenda is planned:

- ◆ Welcome and Announcements
- ◆ Holiday Walk-About
- ◆ Introduction of Guest-At the invitation of Anne Meyer, local water color artist Lynn Greer will attend our meeting to discuss a possible neighborhood fundraising idea that could involve renderings of some of the houses in the historic preservation area. In the past, there has been some informal general discussion about the possibility of a local historical calendar involving this neighborhood and perhaps others throughout the City. The feasibility of these ideas and the amount of effort it might take to pursue them will be the focus of our discussion.
- ◆ Traffic Calming-Additional details concerning the September 27 City Council Committee meeting concerning Lloyd Street traffic issues and follow-up activities will be discussed.
- ◆ Crime Watch-Report from Officer Eric Lewis concerning recent incidents within or near the Neighborhood.
- ◆ Other Business

The September meeting focused on the activities of the Development Association of Greater Greenville (DAGG), a now defunct public-private partnership involving city and county governments, whose most recent focus was on development activity

In this issue...

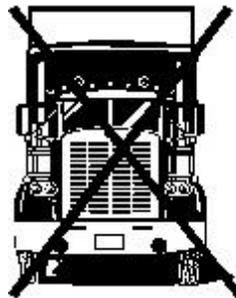
Neighborhood Clean-Up...Traffic Calming...Car 54...
History Corner...Candidates in Upcoming Election

along the Reedy River and on the City's westside. Our guest speaker was Chris Stone, Executive Director of the Greenville Convention and Visitors Bureau (C&VB), who staffed the DAGG board of directors. Chris presented us with the plans to develop the Reedy River corridor, which were quite impressive.

Thanks to the following for attending the September meeting: Chris Stone, Mary Duckett, Carol Ann and Michael Hoffman, Tracy and Jeff Tiddy, Larry Boyd, Kathleen Crispin, Mr. And Mrs. Glenn Kennedy, Margie Montgomery, Lake Pitman, Eric Lewis, and Robert and Judy Benedict.

Visitors are always welcome. -bl & jb

Traffic Calming Digest No. 453b



A September 27 meeting of Greenville City Council's Environment/Quality of Life Committee, chaired by At-Large Councilwoman Michelle Shain, served as a forum for revisitation of implementation of the Hampton-Pinckney/Southernside traffic calming plan. Residents had previously received a mailed invitation to the meeting

which included an agenda item dealing with "Traffic Issues on Lloyd Street" and a large turnout resulted. The item was placed on the agenda at the request of Councilwoman Lillian Flemming. Ms. Flemming reported that complaints raised by some neighborhood residents and safety problems caused by confused drivers who have been disregarding the installed one way signage at West Washington had

prompted her to seek reconsideration of this measure.

City staff in attendance at the meeting reported the following data concerning traffic volume and enforcement on Lloyd Street:

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Traffic volume (January 1999) | 3,283 vehicles |
| Traffic volume (September, 2000) | 1,095 vehicles |
| Traffic warnings and tickets issued (following one way installation) | 118 |
| Traffic accidents | 0 |

The data demonstrate that the objective of changes on Lloyd Street—reducing cut-through traffic to and from the Post Office—is being achieved. More than 2,000 vehicles a day are going somewhere other than Lloyd Street. While that result (albeit not that specific volume) was anticipated by the Traffic Calming Committee, the changes were sought in connection with a variety of other steps affecting other streets. Because all of the other steps have not been implemented by the City, unintended consequences are occurring. For example, traffic volume on Mulberry Street, which is a part of the study area, has increased during the same interval by approximately 500 vehicles a day. While that means that 1,500 of Lloyd Street's original volume are going elsewhere, increasing the volume on Mulberry wasn't the intent.

Traffic Calming Committee members in attendance generally urged full implementation of the original plan before reversal of any implemented features. It was urged that city government assumption from the State of South Carolina of all of Hampton Avenue and the two blocks of Hudson Street, between West Washington and Hampton, would enable the additional physical changes in the plan to proceed. Also, it was suggested that aggressive city discussion with the Postal Service about actions they could take to disperse traffic concentration should continue immediately. In response to these suggestions, City Councilman Gary Coulter moved and all attending Council members voted to direct Interim City Manager Ron McKinney to act quickly concerning the road assumption.

Additional details about the September 27 meeting and follow-up activities will be shared at the next neighborhood meeting. —bl

Time to Vote

In less than one month we will all be running to the polls to vote for our favorite candidates. The other night I was discussing with my 94-year-old grandmother the prospect of moving to an assisted-living community. She said they are too expensive and her social security pays for her insurance and nothing else. My parents pay

for everything else. She then went on to tell me that the President would fix everything for her. I asked her, "Which candidate will do that for you?" and she answered, "It doesn't matter who is elected, he will fix it for me!" I hope she is right.

Hampton-Pinckney falls into District 7 for the State Senate and District 23 for the State House, County Council and School District. Our choices for State Senate are Democrat Ralph Anderson or Republican Allen Bunk Johnson. For the State House we can vote Democrat, Fletcher Smith, or Republican, Lawrence Acker. We do not have any County Council seats open this year. For School Board Trustees, three candidates are in the running: Grady Butler, J.M. Flemming and Bill Henry.

Issues to be voted upon will be:

1. The lottery: A "Yes" vote would abolish the ban in the State Constitution. This Amendment would leave it up to the Legislature to determine the method of conducting State-run lotteries. After state lottery proceeds are used to pay operating expenses and prizes, the Legislature will provide for the educational purposes for which these State-run lottery proceeds must be used. A "No" vote leaves the Constitutional ban on lotteries in place as it is.
2. Personal Property Taxes: A "Yes" vote reduces, over six years, the property tax assessment on cars and pickup trucks from the current 10.5 percent to six percent of the fair market value. A "No" vote keeps the existing 10.5 percent assessment on cars and pickup trucks.
3. Additional Taxes: A "Yes" vote will allow a county, by local referendum, to approve an additional sales and use tax that, if passed, would remove all, or a portion, of property taxes levied on cars, pickup trucks, motorcycles, general aviation aircraft, boats, and boat motors registered in that county. A "No" vote keeps the current system of property tax.

Happy Voting on the 7th.—jb

Fall Clean-up 2000!

We had a beautiful day for our Fall clean-up. We were able to touch almost every area due to the great turnout! Thanks to: Linda and Leonard

Price for cleaning the Butler-Pinckney corner and planting a lovely herb garden; Beth and Max Englehardt for picking up garbage along Lloyd Street; the Duvall's, the Benedict's, the Meyer's, the Rodgers, Brad Wyche and Tom Faulkner, who planted mums and pansies in various places throughout the neighborhood;



Mary Beth and Charlie Rolfe for cleaning their lot on the corner of Butler and Asbury (it looks great!); and Deb Morris for donating the pansies for our plantings.

Clean-up is such an important part of Crime Watch and neighborhood pride. Let's keep working together to keep our neighborhood looking beautiful. -am



Some of the Clean-Up 2000 Crew

Car 54, Where Are You!



My husband and I were shocked to hear the sad news of the murder of two elderly women who lived in the North Main area. Authorities say they were murdered by a local transient over a money dispute. It made us realize how important it is to live in a neighborhood where everyone knows each other and looks out for one another. I talked to Officer Lewis about this incident and here are a few safety suggestions we discussed regarding the transients traveling through our neighborhood:



1. If a transient comes to your door and you feel his/her behavior is threatening, call 9-1-1.

2. DO NOT hire anyone to work on your house unless they come with references in which you have called to verify.

3. Keep in touch with your elderly neighbors to make sure they are safe.

4. Patrol your own neighborhood as you return from work or an errand. If something looks suspicious call Officer Lewis or the police.

At the October meeting, we will take about 15 minute to discuss our recent problems with transients and some incidents that have occurred in the past few weeks. We will discuss Halloween safety as well. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call me. -am



The History Corner

The History Corner this month takes a look at a photograph that shows Central Baptist Church's Sunday School class of 1922. Although we have tried to confirm the building's identity, we cannot say with any certainty that it is a prior version of the present-day Central Baptist Church. The picture was taken March 5th, 1922. (Thanks to Diane Eldridge for this photograph.) -rb



Sidewalk Serenade

This summer, the Greenville City Council held a workshop session on its sidewalk construction and repair programs. The purpose was to make representatives of various neighborhoods within the City aware of the process by which new construction and repair projects are identified and scheduled. The City Public Works Director Dan Durig provided a detailed briefing on the program and discussed the results of efforts by a citizen task force to use a variety of criteria (e.g., proximity to schools, parks, and other community facilities, among others) to create a rational way to prioritize projects within the constraints of financing. The consensus among those neighborhood representatives in attendance was that the process really does make a lot of sense and balances multiple important objectives.

As a follow-up to the summer meeting, several projects in our area were called to the City's attention. Here's a status report, based on a letter from Public Works Director Durig and recent responses from his department:

- ◆ New sidewalk construction from Westfield Street to the entrance of Linky Stone Park--This section would permit uninterrupted pedestrian traffic from Hampton-Pinckney into the park and along the Reedy River across from the Peace Center. It scored sufficiently high on the priority system to be placed on the list for possible construction during the next twelve months.
- ◆ Sidewalk Repair--300 Block of Hampton Avenue--The infamous and ugly asphalt hump over tree roots on the even side of the street which was installed a couple of years ago has been removed. A new concrete section has been rerouted through the city owned grass barrier adjacent to the curb, avoiding the tree roots and staying level with the existing sidewalk.
- ◆ Sidewalk Repair--300 Block of Butler Avenue--In order to avoid possible damage to repaired sidewalks, the broken sections on the even side of Butler Avenue will be deferred until after construction of the townhouse development.
- ◆ Sidewalk Repair--200 Block of Hampton Avenue--The "X-Rated" graffiti which was carved into the hardening concrete of the new sidewalk near the corner of Butler and Hampton has been skim-coated out of existence. Thanks to Jenni Garrett for calling this one to the City's attention and assuring that neighbors with little kids who are just learning to read won't have to explain the meaning of some

words for a little while longer.

- ◆ Sidewalk Repair--Unit Block of Pinckney Street--A trip hazard of raised sections of sidewalk in front of 11 Pinckney Street (Ron and Colleen Whitworth's house) has been marked for repair.

According to Dan Durig, the practice of placing asphalt patches such as the one that graced Hampton Avenue has ceased. Instead, the city will focus on fixing those sections that have trip hazards. However, because of the sheer number of sites that need attention, this will be a lengthy undertaking. If there is a problematic sidewalk adjacent to your property, it is advisable to call that to the attention of the Public Works Department as early as possible. You can do so by calling 467-8000. -bl

Fatality On Pinckney Street Demonstrates Need for Traffic Calming

An adult possum was struck and killed near the corner of Pinckney and Lloyd Streets sometime late Friday night or early Saturday morning. The loss of this animal, who served as mascot for the University of South Carolina football team during its 1999 season (it played dead at home and got killed on the road), shows the continuing importance of traffic calming within the neighborhood. While private funeral services were held, the current USC football squad (with a 5-1 record) is considering playing the remainder of the 2000 season in memory of their departed friend. -bl

Of Personal Interest

- ◆ Congratulations to George Bell on his recent feature concerning the Hunley on the pages of **The Greenville News**. Look for Pete McCauley and Joe Simpson's garden in an upcoming issue. -jb
- ◆ John Pazdan has asked that **The Hampton-Pinckney Gazette** let its readers know that Jenni Garrett was a good Samaritan recently. John and his brother Joe were running last month on Hampton Avenue when John took a severe fall. Jenni witnessed his accident and came to his rescue with emergency first aid. John suffered serious abrasions which required immediate attention. John has privately thanked Jenni but wanted the neighborhood to know how grateful he is. -rb

Important Reminders

- ◆ The next neighborhood meeting is scheduled for

Tuesday, November 7, 7:30 p.m. at Central Baptist Church.

- ◆ Important phone numbers – Eric Lewis, Community Police Officer: Pager: 217-3188, Work: 271-5333, Mobile: 616-2275.
- ◆ The annual Holiday Walk-About has been set for Saturday evening, December 16. Please consider responding affirmatively to Sara Dellinger's (this year's chairperson) requests to open your home for a short time during this enjoyable event. –bl

Letter From the Editor

The message— traffic calming works. Look at the numbers. Over 2000 cars a day are now traveling on some other road besides Lloyd Street. Not only that, they are not all driving down Mulberry, so the bulk of those vehicles are not driving through the Hampton-Pinckney/Southernside neighborhoods at all! I commend the City's Traffic Engineering Department for recommending this traffic calming measure for the results are astounding! My office is on the Lloyd street side of my house and it is noticeably quieter and my windows shake a lot less. Yes, it is inconvenient for me to have the one-way's on each end of Lloyd, since I live very close to the Hampton-Lloyd intersection. I have to pre-plan my approach to my house every time. And, my friends who visit from the North side of town show up at my house and ask, "Since *when* has Lloyd been one way off of Buncombe?" I have been in meetings with representatives from other City neighborhoods who complain because they have to drive *around* the outside of our neighborhood to get to the Post Office. I cannot wait until they all complain that they have to drive around the outside of our neighborhood when they *leave* the Post Office and I cannot wait to see how great it will be when the rest of the traffic calming measures are implemented. This is what I call preserving our neighborhoods!



Thanks to Our Sponsor

This issue of ***The Hampton-Pinckney Gazette*** is sponsored by Bob Lloyd, who paid for printing the September issue and distributed the past two issues. –jb

Contributors this issue: Bob Lloyd, Anne Meyer, Robert Benedict, Judy Benedict

The Hampton-Pinckney Gazette is published 10 times a year. All information to be included in the newsletter must be submitted in writing no later than seven days prior to the first Tuesday of each month. Editor:

Judy Benedict, e-mail:judy@giraffeweb.net
Mailing Address: 411 Hampton Ave. Greenville SC 29601