

GATLING GAZETTE

GATLING POINTE COMMUNITY NEWS

SEPTEMBER 2006

Gatling Pointe Community Association

BOARD MEMBERS

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Management Information

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

No, you are not imagining things--the Gatling Pointe Gazette lives on. Thanks go to Denise Lindner for stepping forward to take over the reigns as editor/publisher of our quarterly newsletter. We hope to continue keeping the community informed on what is going on with your HOA and also sharing items of interest going on in Smithfield. If you have anything that you would like to submit for publication in the next newsletter, please contact Denise and she will try to fit it in.

I would like to appeal to those of you who are living near one of the 11 lamp post beds to keep an eye on the flowers. Unfortunately, the dead perennials in these beds were replaced in mid-July, and they suffered from a lack of rain. If you could help us make sure that future flowers planted in these beds get off to a good start, it would be greatly appreciated. The first month these flowers go in are the most important; until then they are at a real disadvantage compared to the rest of the established flowers. We will do a better job of notifying those of you nearest these beds that something new has been planted. With your help we can make sure that our association

dollars go farther. Now that we have mostly perennials planted, we should save quite a bit of money on our planting costs each year.

Those of you wishing to remove any trees from your yard--don't forget that this requires an ARB request, even if the tree is dead. An ARB rep will verify the status of the tree and take into consideration any official documentation you might have from an arborist.

And... while the weather is still nice, be sure to assess the condition of your mailbox. Now is a good time to paint it, if needed. Remember to use Gloss Black for the mailbox and Lighthouse Gray for the post.

As the school year has now begun, please be on the lookout for school buses in the neighborhood and, more importantly, the children waiting to catch the bus, as well as children walking back to their homes. Also, be sure to obey all traffic signs in the neighborhood.

Finally, if you are not a part of the Neighborhood Watch Program, I encourage you to sign up. Whether you have just moved into the neighborhood or are a long-time resident who just wants to be a part of this network, it's a great tool in taking ownership in your

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (con't)

neighborhood. Please contact Lou DeMartino (356-9062 or weegie@charter.net) to be set up with your block captain. The more eyes and ears we have out there, the safer and better our community will be. Participants will be contacted about local crime sprees, suspicious people/vehicles, and other community alerts. Email is the preferred method of contact, but phone numbers can also be used. As daylight hours become shorter, be aware of your surroundings and report anything suspicious or out of place to the sheriff's department and your block captain.

David Willis

The Manager's Corner

A Greeting to all Gatling Pointe Community Association members. I would like to introduce myself-- my name is Michael Griffin and I am your new United Property Associates management representative.

I am relatively new to the area, moving to Norfolk this past February. I have been with UPA for approximately 4 months. Previously I had been working in property management on the Outer Banks of North Carolina. I worked in operations and facilities management of a vacation rental company in Corolla, NC. I currently manage several communities in the area

and look forward to meeting and working with the Board and residents of Gatling Pointe.

I plan to continue with a weekly inspection program as my predecessors have done. Please remember that any and all exterior modifications need prior approval of the Architectural Review Board (ARB). If you have any questions about this process, please do not hesitate to contact me.

YLS, the landscaper, has plans to plant fall annuals in the common areas the first week in October. This is also a great time for homeowners to take care of any over seeding, aerating and fertilizing of their lawns.

Again, I look forward to meeting and working with the Board and residents of Gatling Pointe. Yours is a beautiful community, and I hope to contribute to maintaining the high standard of living you have experienced in the past.

Sincerely,
Michael Griffin

**Reminder---
GPCA
Quarterly
Dues Are Due
October 1**

Need to have your mailbox refurbished?

Call Doug Owens at 357-0474 for rates and scheduling information. Whether you need a light touch up, name change or a complete replacement, he will be happy to help. For those do-it-yourselfers, you should paint the post Lighthouse Gray; the lettering Glossy White; and the mailbox Glossy Black.

New Board Member Needed

There is currently a vacancy on the GPCA Board of Directors. If you are interested in serving our community in this capacity, please contact our Board President, David Willis or the United Property Assoc. office.

Gatling Pointe has not remained the wonderful community that it is without the efforts of its concerned residents.

Relay For Life

The Beacons of Hope will kick off the 2007 Relay for Life with a planning session on September 20th at 7 PM.

Call Brenda Joyner at 365-9794 if you're interested in joining the team which raised over \$22,000 in the fight against cancer in 2006.

Brenda Joyner

ANNEXATION REPORT

Within the next 2 months, the Annexation Committee expects to be polling Gatling Pointe and Gatling Pointe South residents to get everyone's position on a potential annexation of the subdivision by the town of Smithfield in 2008.

Based upon the current tax rates for both the county of Isle of Wight and the town of Smithfield, we could expect a tax **increase** of approximately 21% for those currently using the private trash pickup service; and 24% for those not using the private trash pickup.

For such a significant tax increase, the only services that Smithfield can offer us would be trash pickup twice a week and a rather nebulous "increased police protection".

This information will be used to determine the communities opinion on the matter and engage our elected officials in doing something about it.

Rex Williams

"Dog-on-it"

A Special Thank You to all the responsible dog owners who restrict their dog's exercise walks to the walkway, streets, and public areas of the parkway; and especially to those thoughtful and conscientious owners who pick up after their dogs. Unfortunately, we still have owners who allow man's best friend to use their neighbor's yard to relieve themselves.

Some of you will rationalize by saying that you pick up after your dog, so it shouldn't matter; but it does. Unless the homeowners invited you to let your dog relieve itself on their lawn, you and your dog are trespassing; yes, trespassing.

Fact: A dog's extraordinary sense of smell of urine, defecation and fragrance left on lawns often cause dogs to "roam" on a neighbor's property and mark or remark it which presents a fundamental problem of urine (nitrogen) burn spotting and concentration of waste products.

The overall aesthetics of the neighborhood is everyone's responsibility and a **"Dog-on-it's OWN Lawn"** is a good thing.

A Gentle Reminder: Please be considerate of your neighbors, too, by bringing "Spot" inside should he express his unhappiness by barking for more than a few minutes.

Concert to benefit music education in the County

- ♪ An auxiliary instructor for the Smithfield High School band
- ♪ Recorder flutes for every middle school music class
- ♪ A \$500 scholarship for a 2005 SHS graduate and future opera singer attending Carnegie Mellon University

All of these are the result of the programs presented by Smithfield Music, an initiative of the Isle of Wight Arts League. Concerts by top tier performers are hosted at the Smithfield Little theater, program co-sponsor. The Smithfield Little Theater provides an intimate venue that brings musician and audience together for a wonderful evening of music.

The next concert features the "feel good blues" of Whitey Johnson and special guest Gary Nicholson. If you don't recognize Gary Nicholson's name, you may know the artists who've recorded his songs. They include BB King, Etta James, Bonnie Raitt, Keb Mo, Delbert McClinton, Gatemouth Brown, James Cotton, Junior Wells, Shemeka Copeland, John Mayall and many others.

The concert is Saturday, September 16th at 8 PM at the Smithfield Little Theater. Admission is \$20. Tickets are available at the Christmas Store, 108 Main Street, and the Smithfield Cultural Arts Center, 346 Main Street. For more information go to www.SmithfieldArts.org

An Evening With the Arts

2006



Whimsically decorated tables, fine food spirited bidding, great camaraderie. All this will benefit the Isle of Wight Arts League.

Saturday, October 21st

The Smithfield Center Information and reservations are available at the Cultural Arts Center, 346 Main Street, 357-7707; or contact Rick Bodson at 365-9794.

Master Gardner Program

The Virginia Cooperative Extension Master Gardner program begins its next training session in January. Deadline for registration is Dec. 8th. Register early as space is limited. For more information contact Brenda Joyner at 365-9794 or visit the Master Gardener tent at the County Fair on Sept. 14-17.

Smithfield Fall Events Calendar

Sept. 14-17 County Fair
Sept. 18 Gary Nicholson @ Smithfield Little Theater
Sept. 29 Schoolhouse Museum Gala--Silent & Live Auctions to raise funds for renovation--Smithfield Center
Oct. 1 Blessing of the Animals--St. Luke's Church
Oct. 7 Court Days--Old Courthouse
Oct. 14 Town and Country Day (Hog Jog, Souper Saturday, Farmer's Market, Vineyard Tour, Car Show, Farm Tour, etc.)
Oct. 18 Isle of Wight Chamber of Commerce "Back to the Beach" Chamber Day @ Morgart's Beach
Oct. 21 An Evening w/the Arts—Smithfield Center
Oct. 28 Carrollton Fire Dept. Fall Barbeque
Nov. 4 Luter Family YMCA Dualthon
Nov. 18 Farmers Market
Nov. 25-Dec. 17 Holiday Christmas Tree & Wreath Sale--Summer Wind Vineyards & Holiday Christmas Tree Farm
Dec. 2 Farmers Market
Dec. 2-3 Homes Tour

From The Editor

For those of you who do not know me, my name is Denise Lindner and I have been a resident of Gatling Pointe for 16 years.

I am happy to follow in JoAnn Kirk's footsteps as editor of the Gatling Gazette, and like her, I will greatly appreciate your input. If you have any comments or information you would like to be included in the next newsletter, please email me. My email address is: deniselindner@msn.com.

If you are willing to help in the distribution of the newsletter, please also contact David Willis or me.

Denise Lindner

