



*monthly newsletter of the SouthWest Citizens Advisory Council*

***Next meeting: Monday, March 10, 2008***

***Carolina Pines Community Center  
2305 Lake Wheeler Road  
7:00 p.m.***

## **AGENDA**

- 1. Raleigh Police Department report** – Officer Upchurch
- 2. Parks and Recreation Department report** – Nicky Brewster
- 3. Shower timers** – Ed Buchan has a way to save more water.
- 4. Master Plan for State of North Carolina land located in Wake County** – Jay Smith, of O'Brien/Atkins Associates, will share information about the entire plan – especially land located in the SW CAC area.
- 5. Master Plan for Eliza Pool Park** - It is time to review the plan and decide how to complete the “neighborhood garden” portion of the plan. This review can help us when the process begins for the park at the corner of Lineberry and Sierra.
- 6. Service Raleigh** – NCSU students, Empire Properties staff and member of SW CAC will be cleaning underbrush, removing trash, etc., from the bank/incline between South Wilmington Street and Fayetteville Road. Sign up tonight to share the fun.
- 7. Old and new business**

## **ALERTS...**

- *March 12 from 7-8:30 pm there will be a pre-loss and pet loss workshop at the SPCA of Wake County, 200 Pet Finder Lane. For more information go to [spcawake.org/events](http://spcawake.org/events) or call 772-2326.*
- *Signs place in the right-of-way are illegal. That area includes signs placed on light poles. We do not want our streets to be trashed by fly-by-night businesses that prey on citizens in need. Call Zoning Inspector William Yeager at 278-6145 (cell) to report violations. Only he has authority to remove illegal signs. If you must put up yard sale signs, remove them at the end of the day!!!*

SWCAC meetings  
2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays  
7:00 p.m.  
Carolina Pines  
Community Center  
2305 Lake Wheeler Rd.  
831-6435

Chairperson:  
Mary Belle Pate  
772-9460  
[southralcap@aol.com](mailto:southralcap@aol.com)

Community Specialist:  
Rebecca J. Brown  
831-6100

[R.J.Brown@ci.raleigh.nc.us](mailto:R.J.Brown@ci.raleigh.nc.us)

City Council Office:  
890-3050

City Manager's Office:  
890-3070

Raleigh Police (District 26)  
831-6170

Police Non-Emergency:  
831-6311

Crime Prevention:  
831-6740

Crime Stoppers:  
834-4357

Parks and Recreation  
NickyBrewster  
831-6435

Trash Pick-up Troubles  
831-6890

Potholes

831-6446

Graffiti Hotline:  
831-6001

[graffiti@ci.raleigh.nc.us](mailto:graffiti@ci.raleigh.nc.us)

Gang Tip Hotline  
890-3904

5085

# COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

## NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Now accepting applications for 2008 Leadership Institute sessions

Do you want to enhance your leadership potential and grow stronger in your civic engagement with Raleigh's municipal government? If so, the Citizens Participation Leadership Institute (CPLI) is for you.

Offered by the City of Raleigh & Shaw University, CPLI consists of 10 classes, with the Spring, 2008 session beginning on March 6th.

**Cost:** no charge (dinner included)  
Class meets Thursdays from 6 - 8 p.m., Estey Hall, Shaw University. *For your application*, contact Kevin Smith at **919.831.6117** or [Kevin.smith@ci.raleigh.nc.us](mailto:Kevin.smith@ci.raleigh.nc.us)



### Neighborhood Improvement Grants 2008

The City of Raleigh Community Services Department offers grants of up to \$2500 ...

Grants are available to registered neighborhood associations within the defined low to moderate income areas. To find out if your neighborhood qualifies for this grant, call Charlene Willard at **919.831.6095** or [Charlene.willard@ci.raleigh.nc.us](mailto:Charlene.willard@ci.raleigh.nc.us).



### Neighborhood Association Registry

To identify and support existing neighborhood organizations, Community Services offers a registry program for many different types of neighborhood groups and associations, such as a neighborhood association, garden club, homeowners association, community watch program, etc., we encourage you to contact your neighborhood leaders and have them complete a Neighborhood Association Registry application. **It's free to register.**

Call Charlene Willard, City of Raleigh Community Specialist at **919.831.6095** or [Charlene.willard@ci.raleigh.nc.us](mailto:Charlene.willard@ci.raleigh.nc.us).



### Raleigh Neighborhood College

#### A great experience for Raleigh citizens.

Come learn how your tax dollars help make Raleigh's quality of life truly exceptional!

The Raleigh Neighborhood College is a series of 12 classes, offering an informative overview of Raleigh's city government operations and activities. The City of Raleigh, in partnership with Peace College offers this program to Raleigh citizens.

**Spring, 2008 Session** begins March 13, 2008.

**Cost:** no charge (dinner included)

**Class meets** Thursdays from 6 - 9 p.m. at Peace College.

**For your application** for the 2008 sessions, call Charlene Willard at **919.831.6095** or [Charlene.willard@ci.raleigh.nc.us](mailto:Charlene.willard@ci.raleigh.nc.us).

### Want to Strengthen Your Neighborhood's Quality of Life?

Become a Citizen Area Liaison and serve as a link between your neighborhood residents and any organization, agency, and resource, including, but not limited to, the City of Raleigh. See your neighborhood improve and thrive over a period of time and gain satisfaction and pride by knowing that you helped to bring about those changes.

For more information, contact Luis Olivieri-Robert at **919.831.6099** or [Luis.olivieri-robert@ci.raleigh.nc.us](mailto:Luis.olivieri-robert@ci.raleigh.nc.us) or Sheila Lynch at **919.831.6136** or [sheila.lynch@ci.raleigh.nc.us](mailto:sheila.lynch@ci.raleigh.nc.us).

### 2008 RALEIGH NEIGHBORHOOD EXCHANGE



**September 19 - 20, 2008**

**at the New Raleigh Convention Center !**

Join other Raleigh residents and citizens for interactive information sessions addressing community issues. Dynamic keynote speakers share neighborhood empowerment successes from other cities. Does Raleigh's quality of life and other critical issues matter to you? If so, we look forward to your attendance at this year's conference! Call Kevin Smith at **919.831.6117** or [Kevin.smith@ci.raleigh.nc.us](mailto:Kevin.smith@ci.raleigh.nc.us).



## PLANNING **Raleigh** 2030

A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

### CALL TO ACTION

**Participate in the SECOND ROUND of Citywide Public Workshops on the Comprehensive Plan.**

Attendance at the first round of public workshops not required

#### **Three dates to choose from:**

Same meeting, different locations for your convenience

#### **Tuesday, March 25**

Tentative Location: Southeast Raleigh Magnet High School\*\*  
2600 Rock Quarry Road

#### **Wednesday, March 26**

Tentative Location: Moore Square Museum Magnet Middle School\*\*  
301 S. Person Street

#### **Thursday, March 27**

Confirmed: Tabernacle Baptist Church  
8304 Leesville Road

**On-site check in: 6:00 – 6:30 PM**

**Workshop: 6:30 – 9:00 PM**

*\*\*Register and you will be notified of confirmed location*

#### **Register today for the workshop of your choice**

#### *Build on the visioning workshops*

Hear an overview of public feedback and the resulting revised draft vision statement and themes

#### *Participate in facilitated small-group discussions*

Consider options and ideas for addressing Raleigh's growth and development challenges and opportunities

Register now at [www.planningraleigh2030.com](http://www.planningraleigh2030.com) and you will receive notices for the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of city-wide workshops to be held in November.

Post your comments to the first round public workshop summary report. Visit <http://raleigh-consult.limehouse.com> to access the City's recently launched state-of-the-art interactive website.

For special accommodations, please contact Trisha Hasch, [trisha.hasch@ci.raleigh.nc.us](mailto:trisha.hasch@ci.raleigh.nc.us) or 919-807-8480.

Light refreshments will be served.

Presented by the City of Raleigh

For immediate release  
Date: February 4, 2008

Contact (AG's Office):  
Noelle Talley, 919/716-6413  
Contact (COB's Office):  
Ha Nguyen, 919/733-3016

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## *Hotline to help North Carolinians facing foreclosure*

### ***HOPE hotline will connect callers with local non-profits to help people keep their homes***

**Raleigh:** Help for North Carolinians who are at risk of losing their homes to foreclosure is now just a telephone call away, Attorney General Roy Cooper and the Office of the Commissioner of Banks announced today. "It's tragic when families lose their homes, especially when it could be prevented," Cooper said. "One toll-free call could give them the advice they need to stop foreclosure."

North Carolinians can call the HOPE Hotline toll-free at 888-995-HOPE 24 hours a day, seven days a week to receive free counseling on options to avoid foreclosure. The hotline will connect callers with non-profit housing and credit counselors in their local community who can advise them about options such as modifying their loan, selling or refinancing their home or setting up a repayment plan with their lender.

"Homeowners struggling to pay their mortgage need to know there are resources available to help them avoid foreclosure. Call the NC HOPE Hotline and you may be able to save your home," said Deputy Commissioner of Banks Mark Pearce.

While North Carolina has not experienced the wave of foreclosures seen in many other states due to our strong laws against unfair loans, foreclosures are on the rise in the state. Foreclosure starts were up 9.4 percent in North Carolina in 2007 and are expected to increase by 10 to 20 percent in 2008, according to the Commissioner of Banks' office.

According to research by Freddie Mac, more than half of all homeowners who experience foreclosure never contact their mortgage company to try to avoid unnecessary foreclosure. Mortgage servicers and lenders have a strong incentive to help homeowners avoid foreclosure because they stand to lose \$40,000 to \$50,000 in net value when a typical home loan is foreclosed. Finding a solution to foreclosure can be in the best interest of both the homeowner and the lender.

Cooper and the Commissioner of Banks have teamed up to provide \$300,000 in seed money to reimburse counselors who are able to help prevent unnecessary foreclosures for North Carolinians who call the hotline, with more reimbursement going to counselors who are able to help homeowners keep their homes. Additional funding from Congress and the General Assembly could expand access to local counselors through the hotline. Local non-profits will also be able to connect hotline callers with other resources as needed, such as referrals for legal help when there is evidence that the homeowner may have been the victim of predatory or abusive lending practices. The Attorney General's Office will be notified when there is a pattern of lending abuses and can take action to enforce North Carolina's strong laws against predatory lending.

Counselors can also help connect homeowners who qualify with Federal Housing Administration secure loans. In some cases, non-profits may be able to purchase a home before it is foreclosed upon and then lease it back to the homeowner, applying their lease payments to the purchase of the home.

The national Hope Hotline is a joint project between NeighborWorks America, a non-profit organization chartered by Congress, and the Homeownership Preservation Foundation, a non-profit organization based in Minnesota. The Commissioner of Banks and Attorney General Cooper are working together to select and support more than 20 high-quality counseling agencies across the state to accept referrals from the national Hope Hotline. These local counselors will be able to provide assistance not currently available through the national hotline.

"Foreclosures are hurting families across our state and damaging our neighborhoods and communities," said Cooper. "It's in all of our interest to help homeowners find a way out of foreclosure when possible."

More information about the hotline and the organizations involved is available at [www.ncforeclosurehelp.org](http://www.ncforeclosurehelp.org).