



SouthWest Sentinel

Monthly newsletter of the SouthWest Citizens Advisory Council

Next Meeting: Monday, June 08, 2009

Carolina Pines Community Center
2305 Lake Wheeler Road

7:00 p.m.

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

Chairperson:
Mary Belle Pate
772-9460
southralcap@aol.com

Community Specialist:
Tyrone Lindsey
Tyrone.Lindsey@ci.raleigh.nc.us

City Council Office:
996-3050

City Manager's Office:
996-3070

Raleigh Police (District 26)
831-6170

Police Non-Emergency:
831-6311

Crime Prevention:
890-3335

Crime Stoppers:
834-4357

Parks and Recreation
Nicky Brewster
831-6435

Trash Pick-up Troubles
831-6890

Potholes
831-6446

Graffiti Hotline:
831-6001
graffiti@ci.raleigh.nc.us

Gang Tip Hotline
890-3904

Agenda

- I. **Police Report** - Officer Barbie Upchurch
- II. **Parks & Recreation Report** - Nickey Brewster
- III. **Volunteer Program for the Raleigh Police Department** - This new program is an opportunity for us regular citizens to give back to our community and to become an important part of the Raleigh Police Department. No danger involved, just putting your skills to good use and making a positive difference!
- IV. **Old and New Business**
- V. **Adjournment on or before 8:30 p.m.**

BITS AND PIECES...

- Mount Hope Cemetery is one of only three properties in Raleigh that made the National Register of Historic Places this year. Established around 1892 for Raleigh's black residents, the cemetery is located at the northeast tip of our CAC. An article in the May 29 News & Observer gave much good information about the cemetery, including the fact that former Raleigh Mayor Lightner is buried there. Many thanks go to Jane Thurman, chairwoman, and other members of the nonprofit Raleigh City Cemeteries Preservation, Inc., who made this honor possible.
- All the rain we are having is wonderful and really is making our grassy lawns and shrubbery grow fast. Please keep your lawns neatly trimmed - unkempt yards can make our homes very inviting to thieves. And don't forget to mow your grass in a way that does not throw grass clippings into the gutters and streets. Grass clippings can clog our stormwater system and be costly to each and every one of us taxpayers to un-clog.
- If you have ideas for future SW CAC meetings, please contact the chairperson -phone number and email address are listed on the top right side of this newsletter.

Council Approves Funding For Water Conservation Incentive Initiative

The Raleigh City Council voted unanimously today to establish permanent funding for a water conservation incentive initiative. The first initiative to be funded is a gravity-flush toilet replacement rebate program. Under this first program, the City will offer \$100 rebates to City of Raleigh water and sewer customers who confirm in accordance with the City's guidelines that they have purchased and installed water-efficient flush toilets to replace their existing flush toilets.

In order to meet the minimum qualifications for the toilet replacement rebate program, the new flush toilets must be "water sense certified" and not use more than 1.28 gallons of water per flush. Over the next few weeks, the City's Public Utilities Department will develop the toilet rebate application/installation certification forms that customers must complete and submit to the City in order to receive the rebate funds. In order to insure that proper water conserving toilets have been installed, the City will conduct random inspection audits at some customer locations that receive the rebate funding.

To provide initial funding for the toilet replacement rebate program, the City will use \$500,000 in unspent funds from its water reuse system account. Annual funding for the water conservation incentive initiative will come from a \$200 increase in sewer nutrient fees, which are collected from all new sanitary sewer customers connecting to the City's sewer system. The sewer nutrient fee increase is effective July 1.

For more information on the gravity-flush toilet replacement rebate program, contact Cinnamon Williams in the City's Public Utilities Department at 857-4540 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

In other action today, the City Council asked the City administration for more information regarding a proposed 17 percent increase in water and sewer rates. Council members will discuss the proposed rate increase at their April 21 meeting.

For more information, contact [Dale Crisp](#), Public Utilities Department Director at 919-857-4540.

TWO LANDLORD TRAINING CLASSES REMAINING FOR 2009

The City of Raleigh will again offer a training course to help landlords and property managers enhance the quality of living on their properties. The one-day course, which the City is presenting in partnership with property managers and the legal community, will be held on **May 20 and Oct. 14** from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room at the Raleigh Housing Authority, 871 Harp St.

The training course is approved for continuing education credits from the North Carolina Bar Association (six hours) and the North Carolina Real Estate Commission (four hours).

The training course will provide practical tips on how to reduce the likelihood of nuisance violations and drug, gang and illegal activity occurring in and around rental property. It will include instructions on implementing effective applicant screening policies and practices, strengthening rental agreements, recognizing warning signs of drug and gang activity, taking the right legal steps to resolve problems, understanding the role of the police, and reviewing the City's probationary rental occupancy permit (PROP) and rental registration ordinances. This is also a PROP-approved program.

Participants are required to pre-register because seating is limited. For program or registration information, including registration fees; contact Christine Alston at the City of Raleigh Community Services Department, 996-6100, or email Christine.alston@ci.raleigh.nc.us.

Since 2006, nearly 300 participants have enrolled in the City's landlord training class. Post-class evaluations of the participants showed that 75 percent were actively planning positive changes to their property and/or management practices and 98 percent found the class to be worthwhile.

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CITIZEN EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES



A GREAT EXPERIENCE FOR RALEIGH CITIZENS

Come learn how your tax dollars help make Raleigh's quality of life truly exceptional! We are offering an informative overview of Raleigh's city government operations and activities.

FALL SESSION 2009: Cost: no charge (dinner included)

Class meets Thurs. 6pm - 9 p.m. at Peace College (12 classes) **CONTACT:** Kevin Smith

996-5716 • kevin.smith@ci.raleigh.nc.us



Enhance your leadership potential and grow stronger in your civic engagement with Raleigh's municipal government, JOIN

Citizens Participation Leadership Institute (CPLI).

Fall Session 2009: Cost: no charge (dinner included)

Class meets Thurs. 6pm-8pm, at Shaw University (8 classes) **CONTACT:** Charlene Willard

996-5718 • charlene.willard@ci.raleigh.nc.us

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION REGISTRY



We offer a registry program for different types of neighborhood groups, such as neighborhood associations, garden clubs, homeowners associations, community watch programs, etc. Contact your neighborhood leaders and have them complete a Neighborhood Association Registry application. It's FREE to register.

CONTACT: Charlene Willard 996-5718 • charlene.willard@ci.raleigh.nc.us

CITIZEN AREA LIASON

WANT TO STRENGTHEN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD'S QUALITY OF LIFE?

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.

CONTACT: Luis Olivieri-Robert 996-5714 • Luis.olivieri-robert@ci.raleigh.nc.us

Sheila Lynch 996-5713 • sheila.lynch@ci.raleigh.nc.us

SEPTEMBER CELEBRATES NEIGHBORHOOD MONTH



Join other Raleigh citizens for interactive information sessions addressing community issues. Dynamic keynote speakers share neighborhood empowerment

successes from other cities. *Do Raleigh's quality of life and other critical issues matter to you?* If so, we look forward to your attendance at the 2009 conference! For more information

CONTACT: 996-6100.

September has been designated by the Raleigh City Council as Neighborhood Month. In addition to the Neighborhood Exchange, we would like to have outdoor activities on different weekends to celebrate our neighborhoods. These outdoor activities could consist of a parade, tours of neighborhoods and a closing picnic. A citizens' committee has been formed to help us explore additional ways to celebrate our treasures. **CONTACT** Sheila Lynch at 996-6100 if you are interested in serving on this committee.