



SOUTHWEST SENTINEL

the monthly newsletter of your SouthWest Citizens Advisory Council DECEMBER 2005

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SOUTHWEST CAC WILL NOT MEET IN DECEMBER.

Instead of our meeting, spend more time with family and friends during this holiday season and reflect on the good things that have happened within our CAC boundaries. Last spring Jason Hibbets became our first Neighborhood College graduate and now we have three winter Neighborhood College graduates: Margaret Rose Deans, Teresa Moore and John G. Reaves, Jr. Hopefully more citizens will choose to learn more Raleigh city government by enrolling in the 2006 Spring Class. According to our four graduates, Neighborhood College is a worthwhile experience.

In the awards category, SW CAC continued its winning tradition by having two winners. The Garden at Caraleigh Mill won an RCAC Community Appearance award in June for its lovely courtyard landscaping. Then in October Lennox Chase (we will learn more about this facility at our January meeting) won a coveted Sir Walter Raleigh Award.

We had one major rezoning case - a Planned Development District (PDD) submitted by Wakefield Development Company and known by the name Renaissance Park. Located On 206+ acres of the old municipal airport, the project calls for 1,500 residential units priced from \$150,000 to \$450,000 along with commercial areas. Architectural design will consider area history with an influence of New Bern style. The club house will be

a modified replica of Tryon Palace with a swimming pool, tennis courts, and play area for children. A project bonus for everyone who travels Tryon Road will be the straightening of the nasty curve east of the railroad bridge.

The Healing Place for Women was scheduled to open in late spring, but thanks to one of our corporate neighbors, Red Hat, it will open in mid-January. Thank you, Red Hat!

Lineberry Drive was finally paved from Ramsgate to Lake Wheeler Road. That allowed the finishing touches to be put on The Oaks of Carolina. If you attend our January meeting, you can learn more about this skilled nursing facility and its opening date.

Many exciting and challenging issues face SW CAC in the coming year. I sincerely wish that at least one person from each subdivision/community within our boundaries will choose to attend SW CAC meetings in 2006. Your concerns and opinions are valued. It takes all of us working together meeting-by-meeting to make Southwest Raleigh the best part of Raleigh. Together we can do it!

Happy holidays to you all!

BITS AND PIECES...

.The Raleigh City Council will hold a budget hearing on the evening of January 3. Any Raleigh citizen may make requests at that time. You do not have to sign up in advance in order to speak.

.Plan to attend in early January a public meeting designed to showcase the Southwest District Update of the Comprehensive Plan. More information will be given in the January SW CAC newsletter.

.Because we will not meet in December, we will not collect goodies/supplies for the Healing Place until February.

. Gang Tip Hotline 890-3904

.**GRAFFITI Hotline 831-6001** - Beginning Oct. 3, the City of Raleigh launched a new effort to immediately remove graffiti from public buildings and structures, public rights-of-way, and city parks. The City budget for the current fiscal year includes funds to establish crews to address graffiti from public facilities. The program concentrates efforts on removing graffiti as quickly as possible - and residents can help. To report graffiti on public facilities, citizens can call 831-6001 or send email graffiti@ci.raleigh.nc.us. Graffiti is a form of vandalism that not only damages property, but leads to a perception of blighted conditions.

SPECIAL PLACES IN THE SOUTHWEST CAC.....will resume in January.

If you wish to contribute to our new newsletter feature "Special Places in the Southwest CAC," contact the Chairperson at 772-9460.

SW CAC November meeting report:

Officer Upchurch reported that of the 72 robberies in District 26 (49 were residential and 23 commercial) only 9 occurred in our CAC area. Of the residential, 13 took place in the morning, 28 in early evening and 8 at night. 17 of the 23 commercial robberies happened during the day. She reminded us to be very aware of our surroundings and not to leave ANYTHING in plain view in our cars, especially during this holiday season. Car robberies occurred when people left keys in the ignition or left the car unlocked. If you see anything/anyone suspicious in your neighborhood, call 911. Robert Stewart told us about the many recreational opportunities available for everyone from

youngsters to senior citizens. Visit Carolina Pines Community Center to get a calendar of activities, use the weigh lifting equipment, participate in team sports, etc. Other items discussed included the SPCA of Wake County, DHIC, the Neighborhood Matching Grant Program (citizen groups can apply for up to \$5,000 for improvements to their neighborhood - forms will be available at our January meeting), the Dorothea Dix property, the paving of Fairway Drive, and business changes on the west end of Maywood Avenue. Paper Stock will be moving to east Raleigh in 2006. SW CAC voted 20-0 in favor of requesting that the Raleigh City Council ban parking on both sides of Maywood Avenue from Caraleigh Mill condos to Lake Wheeler Road.

Crime Stoppers: 834-4357

City Council Office: 890-3050

Housing Inspections: 807-5110

Police Non-Emergency: 831-6311

City Manager's Office: 890-3070

RPD District 26: 858-0103

Crime Prevention: 831-6511

COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT- NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES DIVISION

Neighborhood Improvement Matching Grants 2005-2006 available

The Neighborhood Improvement Matching Grant Program awards grants up to \$5,000 to neighborhood-serving or neighborhood-based organizations and individuals to initiate projects designed to benefit your particular neighborhood. Projects can be physical or social in nature, but must emphasize neighborhood input and involvement, and be able to prove how the project will benefit the neighborhood. Lets do it! Call 831-6099 for details.

Raleigh Neighborhood College

The Neighborhood College is a program offered by the City of Raleigh in partnership with Wake County. The Spring 2006 session registration will start in January. It will last 13 weeks with classes that provide information on several different kinds of City services, as well as County services. Students in the Neighborhood College will have a chance to meet and interact with City staff, County staff, and other Raleigh residents to learn things about government you always wanted to know, but didn't know who to ask! Classes are either on Tuesdays or Thursdays from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at different City locations. Only 25 students are accepted per session. For more details, including brochure or application, contact Sandra L. Carson at 831-6097.

Neighborhood Association Registry

A program to register neighborhood groups. This program enhances citizen involvement by providing communication and partnering between various neighborhood organizations in the City of Raleigh, it's extraterritorial jurisdiction and City government. The City desires to identify and support existing neighborhoods, organizations, while encouraging and assisting new

neighborhood groups. Our ultimate objective is empowerment of neighborhoods. If you are a member of a Raleigh neighborhood organization (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. For details call 831-6100.

Neighborhoods Month Committee

On September 6, 2005, Mayor Charles Meeker proclaimed the month of September to be Neighborhoods Month. He encouraged every citizen *"to acknowledge the contributions of neighborhood organizations that have helped make the City of Oaks one of the best places in America to live and raise a family."* The Community Services Department is commissioning a group of 15 citizens to serve on its inaugural Neighborhoods Month Celebration Committee for 2006. We are seeking volunteers that will come from and represent all areas of the city to serve. The committee will have responsibility for planning and implementing project ideas that will raise awareness and help promote September 2006 as being Neighborhoods Month. The committee will begin holding planning sessions in February. Please contact Dwayne C. Patterson at 831-6086 or e-mail Dwayne.patterson@ci.raleigh.nc.us should you desire to be considered for a position on the Neighborhoods Month Celebration Committee. Names will be solicited until January 13, 2006.

3rd Annual Raleigh Neighborhood Exchange! SEPT. 2006 Mark your calendars.

City Ready For Winter Storms

The City of Raleigh is prepared for any snow and ice that falls on the Capital City this winter. City crews have already readied snow equipment, stored salt and salt brine, and made detailed plans for moving and removing snow and/or ice in case a winter storm hits Raleigh. "When a winter storm arises, we will activate our emergency inclement weather plan to clear roads and bridges of snow or ice and make conditions as safe as possible for citizens," City Manager Russell Allen said. He added that the City will provide the "best service possible" to residents during inclement weather." The city manager is encouraging citizens who live or work in Raleigh to review their own emergency inclement weather plans. The goal of the City's emergency snow removal is to keep major roadways and public transit routes passable for vehicles equipped with all-weather tires, snow tires or chains, or other special equipment designed for icy road conditions.

This will be the first winter season the City uses salt brine to treat roads. Salt brine is a mixture of salt and water that is applied to roads prior to a predicted winter storm. The mixture dissolves snow and ice as it falls onto the pavement. The City will have the ability to make and apply salt brine. Although salt brine not a panacea for treating roads in all types of winter storms, it is a proven and successful tool that will complement the City's other snow and ice removal strategies. The City's snow removal plan calls for priority one (major thoroughfares) and priority two (Capital Area Transit bus routes) to be treated with salt brine right before a predicted winter storm hits. After pretreatment with salt brine, the City will spread salt on roads and bridges as soon as snow or ice conditions are detected. Snow plowing begins when the snow depth exceeds two inches. The City has set a priority system for bridges and roads to determine the order in which salt is spread and plowing occurs. Under this priority system, bridges will be salted first. Following bridges in the priority system will be major thoroughfares, then all Capital Area Transit (CAT) routes. After that, the City will begin clearing major residential and connector streets, then all other residential streets if snow and/or ice conditions continue. For More Information Contact: 919-890-3100

Garbage, Recycling, Yard Waste Collection Schedule

There will be no changes to curbside collection schedules for garbage, recycling, or yard waste due to the Christmas or New Years Holidays. All residents will receive collection as normally scheduled. The Central Business District will receive normal pick up service Monday, December 19 thru Saturday, December 24.. The Central Business District will receive normal pick up service Monday, January 2, 2006 thru Saturday, January 7, 2006. The Yard Waste Center will be open Monday, December 19 thru Friday, December 23. It will be closed Saturday, December 24, Sunday, December 25 and Monday, December 26. It will re-open on Tuesday, December 27 on a regular schedule. The Yard Waste Center will be closed Monday, January 2, 2006. It will re-open on Tuesday, January 3, 2006 and be on a regular schedule thru Saturday, January 7, 2006. For More Information Contact: 919-831-6890