

# PORCH TALK

## JANUARY 2003



Port Norfolk Civic League, P.O. Box 7114, Portsmouth, Va. 23707

[www.portnorfolk.org](http://www.portnorfolk.org)

Editor: Mandy Schuchhardt

Phone: 399-5649 E-mail: [publicity@portnorfolk.org](mailto:publicity@portnorfolk.org)

Commission of Architectural Review for Port Norfolk (757) 393-8836, ext. 4203

*The production schedule of the Porch Talk was delayed due to the holidays. Please accept our apologies if your newsletter was not delivered in time for the January Civic League Meeting.*

### CIVIC LEAGUE MEETING

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 7:30 PM**  
**PORT NORFOLK BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**SOCIAL HALL**  
**401 BROAD STREET**

Our speaker this month will be Portsmouth Chief of Police Frank J. Kitzerow. Don't miss this opportunity to learn about our local law enforcement.

Last month the League held its annual Christmas Potluck Celebration. There, board members shared their reflections on 2003. It was a great time of fun and fellowship for the community.

### Our New Playground...We Couldn't Have Built It Without YOU!

Port Norfolk's beautiful new playground was completed last month, the product of much fundraising, dedication and hard work.

Thanks to every one of the 125 volunteers who came out that cold, rainy Thursday to build the playground. We built it in just seven hours thanks to their diligence!

We needed tools, and Port Norfolk residents came through. They, along with the Elizabeth River Project, provided what we needed to get the job done. Thanks to Alex Woodland for allowing us to use his PA system, and to Matt Weaver for providing Navy volunteers.

A special thanks those who provided food: BASF, U.S. Amines, Zero's Subs at Maryview, Bob's Carolina BBQ Restaurant, Farm Fresh, Food Lion of Williamsburg, Winn Dixie of Williamsburg and Budweiser Corporation.

Thanks to those who supported us by attending the board cutting ceremony to dedicate the new playground.

The League would like to express a special thanks to Debbie Foytik, chairperson of the Park Committee, for her hard work and determination through every step of the playground project. You have helped to make an significant investment in the community. Thanks!

### A Note from the President...

2003 saw many changes in Port Norfolk. The Pinner's Point Connector is well underway. The Community Center is almost complete. The Business District continues to grow. There is a flurry of home restorations. Fountain Park received a new baseball field and playground equipment.

2004 promises more of the same. The bypass will open, and the Community Center will again serve in the neighborhood. The park will continue to serve as a magnet for events. Certainly, homes will continue to be improved.

Port Norfolk is nothing short of unique. We have a strong sense of community. Our business district gives the neighborhood a "small town" feel.

I am proud to be a part of this neighborhood, and honored to be leading your Civic League in 2004. My thanks go to Richard Ivy for his service as President for the past two years.

Neighborhoods such as Port Norfolk are a large part of what makes Portsmouth unique. I am confident that our community will continue to be a leader in the renaissance of Portsmouth.

- John Lifsey, 2004 Civic League President

### Yard of the Month

135 Maryland Avenue



Congratulations! Your yard looks fantastic. Thank you for doing your part to keep Port Norfolk beautiful. Keep up the excellent work!

### Holiday Decorating Contest Winners

609 Mount Vernon Avenue

333/335 Douglas Avenue

107 Maryland Avenue

218 Mount Vernon Avenue

156 Mount Vernon Avenue

Thanks to everyone who decorated. You did a wonderful job!





## Coming Events

- \* Every Saturday, 7:30 am, Port Norfolk Bike: Saturday Morning Ride, an A/B pace ride with some sprint efforts.
- \* January 5, 6 pm, Cup of Heaven: Ladies' Night and Pampered Chef Demonstration.
- \* January 12, 6 pm, Cup of Heaven: Ladies' Night and Creative Memories Demonstration.
- \* January 17, 4 pm, Broad Street Books: Christopher Newport Writers Group. Come hear the literary ramblings of the folks from Christopher Newport University.
- \* January 22, 6 pm, Broad Street Books: Chesport Poets. Read your own poetry, or come to listen.
- \* January 26, 6 pm, Cup of Heaven: Ladies' Night and PartyLite Candle Show.
- \* January 29, 7 pm, Broad Street Books: Book Club. Join them as they discuss *Cold Mountain* by Charles Frazier.

## RENOVATORS' CORNER



Congratulations to 137 Broad Street, our January-February Featured Renovation! The Commission of Architectural Review (CAR) worked closely with the renovators, who wished to modify the existing porch design. The Commission met the renovators on site twice to study the details and offer design ideas - a service they often provide homeowners in our Historic District. Commissioner Dan Schmidt developed rail and column details that would meet the owners' needs as well as Building Codes and Design Guidelines, and that would enhance the existing architectural features.

137 Broad Street was originally a single-family home that was significantly altered when it was divided into a duplex following the Second World War. During that renovation a second story porch and an entry vestibule with stairs were added to the house, and the original roof structure was removed and replaced with a flatter roof. This presented a challenging design problem, but the end result enhanced our historic neighborhood and helped to build property value.

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

We wish a very happy January birthday to Port Norfolk residents Scott Bailey, Jackie Cunningham, Sean Finch, Debbie Foytik, Alison Grimaldi, Angie Hutchins, Richard Ivy, JoAnna Lane, Dennis Merkel, Kristy Mants, Cristi Shields, Donna Vines, Matt Weaver and Diane Whicker.

If you are a resident or business owner and have a submission for or want to advertise in February's *Porch Talk*, please send an e-mail to [publicity@portnorfolk.org](mailto:publicity@portnorfolk.org), or call Mandy Schuchhardt at 399-5649. **Deadline is January 20, 2004.**

## Coming Home to Port Norfolk

By Felicia Sawyer

I lived on Douglas Avenue in the early 1970s during my final three years at Old Dominion University. After I graduated, I became a substitute teacher and moved to my first "place," also in Port Norfolk.

Truly life is a circle. I have changed a great deal over the past few decades. I see Port Norfolk now as a thriving, growing community where I would like to stay for a very long time.

I attended a Civic League meeting recently. I was very impressed. Everyone made me feel so welcome.

You can come home again.



## HOLIDAY HOMES TOUR THANKS

Thanks to everyone who put their home on the holiday tour. They were all beautiful!

To the tour committee — David Elkins; Wayne Zubyk; Luanne Jackson and Steve, Connie and Lauren Dalhaus — I could not have done it without you!!

I also want to thank all of the tour hosts and hostesses. You did a wonderful job. Also, my appreciation goes to Kirby and Debbie Foytik for taking pictures of the homes for the committee.

- Bobby Clovis, Homes Tour Committee Chair



## GOOD NEIGHBOR REMINDER

- \* Recently, there have been several petty larcenies in Port Norfolk. If you see anyone suspicious around a vehicle, contact the police immediately.

## N.E.A.T. Officer

Port Norfolk's NEAT officer is Chris Gilmore. Please contact him if you see anything suspicious going on in Port Norfolk:

Pager: 533-1226

Cell: 235-5655



## Port Norfolk Civic League Membership Form

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Park Donation: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

I would prefer not to receive e-mail correspondence from the Port Norfolk Civic League.

Mail or take this form and \$5 for each new member to the Civic League meeting or to Eddie Schuchhardt, 505 Florida Ave., Portsmouth, VA, 23707. To make a donation to Fountain Park, please mail it to Port Norfolk Civic League, P.O. Box 7114, Portsmouth, VA 23707. Please make checks payable to the Port Norfolk Civic League.