

THE NEHHPA NEWSLETTER



Happy Holidays!



Snowy Street Scene, Circa 2001

Watch Out!

Neighborhood Awareness

“Why should I participate” or “what can I do” are common questions asked by members of almost any organization. The answer to both questions can be illustrated in reviewing the events which occurred in our neighborhood during this past year.

What began in April as a meeting to determine how to proceed in the ongoing landscaping project along Warwick Blvd. soon turned into something more. It was only at that time that the Board found out that there was more going behind scenes both figuratively and literally than met the eyes.

(See Neighborhood Awareness, Page 3)

Calendar

November 18, 2009

AREVA Informational Meeting
City Council Chambers

December 5, 2009

Holiday Decoration of Park
1 to 4 PM

January 12, 2009

NEHHPA Board Meeting

February 9, 2009

NEHHPA Board Meeting

ATTENTION:

Please attend the meeting with AREVA Newport News, LLC and the City of Newport News on Wednesday, November 18 in City Council Chambers to discuss construction plans for their facility in shipyard's North Yard parking lot. See Page 4 for more information.

North End Huntington Heights Preservation Association

Officers

President:

Michelle Carpenter

Treasurer:

Ed Matz

Historian:

John Runner

Secretary:

Stephanie Shanks

Directors

Billie Leggette

President's Corner

As the holiday season fast approaches, I wanted to share several items of interest with you. First, plans are in full steam by AREVA Newport News LLC, a partnership between AREVA and Northrop Grumman, for a new heavy component manufacturing facility to be located in the shipyard's North Parking area. This facility will become a 330,000 square foot facility that is expected to be operational in January 2012. Chris Levesque, President of the LLC, and his team, along with Newport News City officials have invited all residents to an informational meeting and open discussion regarding construction plans for the facility and what it means for our community.

We will be decorating the park on Saturday, December 5th from 1 to 4 pm. If you would like to assist us in this effort, feel free to come by for an hour or whatever time you can spare. As in years past, we will have cookies and apple cider on hand for our volunteers.

Thanks to all of you who took the time to complete our neighborhood resident survey. It has been some time since we surveyed residents in the community and we hope that the results of this survey will help us better serve you by providing information about events you would like to participate in, ways we can better get timely information to you, and in finding ways in which you can serve the community. If you did not get an opportunity to complete a survey and would like to do so, please email NEHHPA at info@nehhpa.org.

Finally, in a couple of months we will be looking for new leaders to carry on the goals of this organization. The board is very appreciative of the efforts of our past president, Kathy Whittaker. If you have a desire to give back to the community, I highly encourage you to consider getting involved in NEHHPA. We are blessed to be part of such a historic and treasured community.

Best wishes to you and your family as the holidays approach. I also hope to see each of you at the community meeting about AREVA on the 18th of November. If you have any problems or concerns, feel free to contact me by email at info@nehhpa.org or at my residence at 247-9604.

-Michelle Carpenter

THE NORTH END HUNTINGTON HEIGHTS PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

The mission statement for the North End Huntington Heights Preservation Association is to preserve the historic residential character of North End Huntington Heights through advocacy, communication, and education.

NEIGHBORHOOD AWARENESS *(Cont. from page 1)*

Behind the trees and other vegetation, the Shipyard was expanding the parking lot in preparation for another project. The Shipyard wanted to expand into other enterprises which would fit into the existing capabilities at the Yard. In order to provide space for a new facility, the Shipyard decided to consolidate available parking by eliminating part of the parking facilities at the North Yard and expand the parking lot at 50th Street.

During the course of discussing the 50th Street parking lot expansion, it became obvious that neither the Shipyard nor the City Officials involved had considered the potential impact that a change in traffic patterns may have had on our neighborhood.

Besides expanding the 50th Street parking lot, the Shipyard modified the exit points by adding an exit at 57th Street. This had the potential of creating a potentially heavy traffic pattern at unspecified times right in the middle of our neighborhood.

The Board took action by formulating what our goals were as a neighborhood and developing an action plan and finally presenting the plan to the appropriate City Officials. Over the course of several meetings, the Board gathered information from the shipyard, the City as well as other sources. There was also an open meeting for the general membership to offer their input as well. The action plan was shaped by the concerns presented and how they could be addressed in a practical manner. The plan

was presented at a meeting with City officials and our political representative. Both the short term actions as well as the long term actions were adopted.

While everything seems to have turned out for best for all of the interested parties, the future is never guaranteed. You as members need to keep a watchful eye on what goes on in and around our neighborhood. No one who serves on our NEHHPA Board has any more time than the rest of us nor any special connections to the City or the Shipyard. That is why it is so important for everyone to be vigilant and pass on information that the Board might need to act in our best interests. You may be in a better position to know or discover important facts so please never assume that what you know is common knowledge to the rest of the members and the Board. In this age of computers it is easy to communicate quickly, but it is still vitally important to insure that good decisions are made in the first place. That can't be done with having quality information to base those decisions on and that is why your participation as members is so important.

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**Stephenie Shanks
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UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETING WITH CITY AND SHIPYARD

On Wednesday, November 18, 2009, at 7 pm, the residents of the North End / Huntington Heights neighborhood are invited to a meeting with AREVA Newport News, LLC, a partnership between AREVA and Northrop Grumman and with representatives of the City of Newport News in the Newport News City Council Chambers at 2400 Washington Avenue.

AREVA Newport News will be discussing their new heavy component manufacturing facility in the shipyard's North Parking area. The facility will be a 330,000 square foot facility that is expected to become operational in January 2012.

Chris Levesque , President of AREVA Newport News, LLC and his team, along with Newport News City officials are presenting an informational meeting and open discussion regarding construction plans for the facility and what it means for our community.

The upcoming phase of construction involves driving concrete pilings 75 to 100 feet into the ground to create a stable foundation for the flooring and structure of the facility. These pipings will begin to be installed the week of November 16, 2009. The work will generally be performed between the hours of 7 am and 5:30 pm Monday through Saturday.

The NEHHPA board encourages you to attend this meeting so that you will have an opportunity to address any concerns you may have regarding this facility and its construction.

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

6812 River Road, Newport News, Virginia

Worship Services: 8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School Hour 9:45 a.m.

(See website for more Faith Forum Information)

www.trinitylutheran-nn.org

Senior Pastor: The Reverend Frederick P. Guy
Associate Pastor: The Reverend Cheryl Ann Griffin

Faithful Neighbors:

Conversations About God

Join us Sunday at 9:45 a.m. for a Dialogue

Advent Meal & Worship Wednesdays

Join us Wednesday, December 2, 9, and 16, 2009

Meal (6:00 - 6:30 p.m.)

Worship (6:30 - 7:00 p.m.)

Advent is a time that we look forward to the coming of Christ, both his birth and his coming again.

We offer three weeks of fellowship and worship during the Advent Season

Over the Back Fence:

Preserving Your Wallet during the Tax Season

While taxes are almost always on everyone's list of hot button issues, there are ways to lessen one's tax burden while also working to preserve one's home. There are three groups of tax credits. First are those associated with rehabilitation tax credits. Next, there are new acquisition tax credits. Lastly, there are energy tax credits. The following guidance is not intended as legal advice, and you should consult a tax professional with specific questions.

The federal government provides the Federal Historic Preservation Tax Incentives program. The program encourages private sector rehabilitation of historic buildings and is one of the nation's most successful and cost-effective community revitalization programs. Unfortunately it is difficult for the average homeowner to take advantage of the benefits of the program. Virginia offers the **Virginia State Rehabilitation Tax Credit**. State tax credits are available for owner-occupied, as well as income-producing buildings. If your property is income-producing, you may also be able to take advantage of the aforementioned [federal tax credits](#). The state tax credit is more within reach of the average homeowner and additional information can be obtained at www.dhr.virginia.gov/tax_credits/tax_credit_faqs.htm. The City of Newport News offers a property tax

abatement program for those who invest in home rehabilitation. The program information can be found at The City's website. www.nngov.com/development/downloads/incentives/resrehabfactsheet.pdf

This year several new acquisition tax credit programs were created. While they are not aimed at home preservation per se, they are nevertheless useful. The first time homebuyers program first created in 2008 and continued into 2009 are useful in acquiring a historic home. The credit applies only to homes used as a taxpayer's principal residence. It reduces a taxpayer's tax bill or increases his or her refund, dollar for dollar and is fully refundable, meaning the credit will be paid out to eligible taxpayers, even if they owe no tax or the credit is more than the tax owed. However there are differences in the programs. For homes purchased in 2008, the credit is similar to a no-interest loan and must be repaid in 15 equal, annual installments beginning with the 2010 income tax year. For home purchased in 2009, the credit does not have to be paid back unless the home ceases to be the taxpayer's main residence within a three-year period following the purchase. Further information can be found at the IRS website. www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/o,,id=204671,00.html.

(See Preserving Your Wallet, Page 6)

Preserving Your Wallet *(Cont. from Page 5)*

Probably the most useful and available tax credits are those associated with energy savings. Typical home maintenance and preservation items such as storm windows, storm doors, weatherstripping. These items as well as high efficiency appliances are some of the products available for a direct tax credit. These tax credits are limited to the purchase of the products and do not cover installation charges. The total energy tax credit is limited to \$1500 and extends to purchases made throughout 2009 and 2010. As with any other tax credits, receipts should be saved for documentation. Further information is available at www.irs.gov/newsroom/article/0,,id=206875,00.html

The Over the Back Fence section is reserved for news and submissions from the neighborhood.

Block Captains

50th - Vacant
 51st - Thom Matheson - 346 51st
 52nd - Vacant
 53rd - Lynn Ritger 349 53rd
 West Hunt 51-54 Linda Bordeaux 226 52nd
 54th - Bonnie Snead - 342 54th
 55th - Phil Shook 310 55th
 56th - Betty Zattiero 5601 Huntington
 57th - Virginia Gall 338 57th
 58th - Pat Ward 315 58th
 59th - Karen Velkey 5812 Huntington
 60th - John Hughes 335 60th
 61st - Glenn Norcutt 340 61st
 62nd - Brenda Robbins 330 62nd
 63rd - Matt Gardner 6300 Huntington
 64th - Bea Dahlen 6306 Huntington
 65th - Billie Leggette 6408 Huntington
 66th - George Silk 6512 Huntington
 67th - Agnes Kump 314 67th
 68th - James Wells - 6702 Huntington
 69th, Warwick - Vacant
 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, Belvedere and River Rd - Steve Hudak 319 71st

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Attention!

In order to reduce printing costs, after the November NEHHPA Newsletter, printed copies may be limited to NEHHPA members only.

If you wish to receive an electronic copy of the NEHHPA Newsletter, contact us at info@NEHHPA.org

Preservationists' Resource

From a humble newsletter aimed at the hard-core restorer to the glossy magazine that it is today, The Old House Journal is the premier publication for those who want to enter the world of old house restoration. This publication still features some how-to articles which are useful to those who want learn money saving techniques in home restoration, but don't know where to start.

There inspirational articles about the restoration efforts of people like you.

If you would like to know how things were done in the various trades from years ago or why your home contains the features it has, you will probably find it here. There is also a companion publication for those lucky enough to have taken care of the basics in home restoration. It is Old House Interiors which aims to help readers in restoring that special charm or nostalgic feel of comfort your home may have provided. There is also a website which is resource gem which can be an enormous help in finding products and services for homes built before 1950. It provides a wealth of information as to where to find products you may need for your restoration and which may not be locally available along with information about architectural styles and sources of materials. There are also forums where you can ask questions, discuss your projects or just commiserate. www.oldhousejournal.com

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Gutter Cleaning
Waterproofing
Relining
Caps



North End-Huntington Heights Preservation Association

NEHHPA, P.O. Box 75, Newport News, VA 23607

Application for membership

Please complete this form and mail with your check (payable to NEHHPA) to the address listed above.

Please circle the category of membership below for which you are applying.

Resident Member: To be eligible, you must reside in the area from 50th Street to 70th, bounded by Huntington and Warwick, and 70th to 73rd, from Warwick to the James River.

Associate Member: This category applies to all who live outside the area described above. Associates have all rights of membership excluding the right to vote and hold office.

The cost is **\$10 per year** per household and is good February of the current year until February of the following year. Lifetime membership is also available for \$100 per household.

Number of years ____ X \$10 = Total \$_____ or purchase a Lifetime Membership for \$100

Member #1: _____ Date: _____

Member #2: _____ Phone: _____

Street: _____ Apt. # _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

E-mail address _____

Emergency contact _____ (in case something happens while you're out of town)

Please circle below any committees with which you might be willing to assist.

Block Captain	Membership	Homes Tour	Newsletter
Preservation Forum	Web Site	Beautification	City/Shipyard Liaison
Codes & Zoning	Welcoming	Advertising Sales	Merchandise Sales
Yard Sale	Special Events	Safety	Historical

Website Address: www.nehpa.org



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