

# THE NEHHPA NEWSLETTER



Vintage Winter Scene, Huntington Avenue at 59th Street

## There Goes the Neighborhood!

There goes the neighborhood! As a homeowner in the North End - Huntington Heights neighborhood, you may at some point, be aware of or even concerned about what is going on in the neighborhood. You may even wonder if anything can be done and how to best go about improving the situation. The answer to both questions can be illustrated in reviewing the events which occurred in our neighborhood during this past years.

The North End - Huntington Heights Preservation Association was formed in September, 1974 by a group of residents who were interested in preserving the historical significance of this section of the original city. Many of the families who originally lived in neighborhood had moved on for various reasons, but some of the descendants were as well concerned as to what might happen to the neighborhood. The city appeared to have little interest in what happened to the neighborhood. One president of the shipyard was quoted as saying that the area should rezoned for heavy industry. The task of preservation must have looked like a daunting one at this time. *see Neighborhood, page 3*

### Calendar

**December 5, 2010**

NEHHPA Decorate in the Park

**December 12, 2010**

NEHHPA Holiday Social

**January 11, 2011**

NEHHPA Board Meeting

**February 8, 2011**

NEHHPA Board Meeting

**February 23, 2011**

Annual NEHHPA Membership Meeting

# North End Huntington Heights Preservation Association

## Officers

**President:** Michelle Carpenter

**Vice President:** Bea Dahlen

**Treasurer:** Ed Matz

**Historian:** Linda Bordeaux

**Secretary:** Stephenie Shanks

## Directors

**Block Captain Coordinator:**  
Chris Rodgers

**Codes:** Billie Leggette

**Merchandising, Yard Sale:**  
John Runner

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I just love this time of year – the anticipation of the holiday season as I pull out boxes of my Mom's favorite Christmas decorations and begin finding that special place for them throughout our home. It is also so much fun to hear my nearly 3-year-old son singing Jingle Bells when he thinks I am not listening!

I wanted to thank you for the opportunity to have served as your president this past year. This year NEHHPA has enjoyed a number of successful social events with the community. On behalf of the board, thank you for taking the time to participate in our spring yard sale and the summer and fall socials. It has been wonderful to see young and old alike interacting with each other, and children participating in our activities as well.

**BUT THE YEAR IS NOT OVER!** We would like to invite you to one final social activity this year. On **Sunday, December 12<sup>th</sup>**, NEHHPA will host a **Holiday Social at Noland United Methodist Church from 4-6 pm**. This special event will include a visit by SANTA CLAUS as well as a sing-a-long of favorite Christmas carols. We encourage you to bring the entire family! This will be a soup, bread and dessert event. The board will supply a variety of soups for you to sample, along with bread. All we ask is that you bring a favorite dessert, as well as a beverage to share.

Finally, we are looking for volunteers to help with decorating in the park. **Our annual Decorate in the Park** will take place on **Sunday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 pm**. If you can spare an hour or two, come and help us put up greenery and lights.

Thank you for making our community a special place to live. Best wishes to you and yours as the holiday season arrives.

Regards,  
Michelle Carpenter  
NEHHPA President  
[info@nehhpa.org](mailto:info@nehhpa.org)

## 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

*Cont. from page 1*

Back then much of the neighborhood was zoned for multiple family dwellings. Because of their large sizes, there were many homes that were made into apartment and boarding houses. The fledgling Association began their efforts with gradually having the zoning changed to allow only single family dwellings. This started in the 70's and was completed in the 80's. In 1979, a drug counseling center was to be opened in Saxon Holt home at 58th and Huntington and another group home was to be opened on 57th Street. NEHHPA worked with State and Federal agencies to have the neighborhood declared a historic district and also incorporated the Association to establish more permanency. Later, in 1998, group homes were proposed on 55th and 63rd Streets. All of these projects were successfully opposed by NEHHPA as being incompatible with the neighborhood. These efforts culminated in the request to City Council to form an Architectural Review Board to give better legal protections for our neighborhood.

When the former Riverside Hospital Building was purchased by in 2002 and new owners attempted to use the facilities for purposes incompatible with the neighborhood, the Architectural Review Board with NEHHPA in support thwarted those efforts and the building was later torn down. Just last year, the parking lot at 50th

and Warwick was expanded and NEHHPA worked to mitigate the potential problems

There have been many successes in the past, but the future is never guaranteed. NEHHPA was formed because the the founders realized that a neighborhood with a unified voice was more likely to succeed than any one individual with challenges that would come up in the future. While NEHHPA is best at finding and working with various agencies to implement solutions, the individual members are key to making this all happen.

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. 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. If you have concerns about what is happening in the neighborhood and wonder what if anything can be done about them, bring them to NEHHPA's attention. 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 without having quality information to base those decisions on and that is why your participation as members is so important.

# got heat?

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## Over the Back Fence:

### *Home Improvement Definitions*

Restoration, renovation, remodeling? When it comes time to work on your house you may read about or hear these terms and you might ask what is really meant by these them. So with that in mind let's take look.

**Preservation:** keeping everything in its present state and arresting further deterioration

**Restoration:** recreating the original of the structure or its architectural elements so that it closely resembles its previous appearance

**Renovation:** attempting to recreate the structure or its elements using a greater portion of new materials which may only approximate the original elements

**Remodeling:** changing the appearance or style of the structure or its elements

Knowing these terms will help insure that you know what is to be done and what the expected outcome will be. Preservation can be a long process that requires the homeowner to be sensitive to the integrity of his home. It requires time to find the right materials and to work them in budget and place.

By preserving as much architectural detail as possible when renovating or restoring your home, you are ensuring the long term market value of your home and also ensuring the integrity of the neighborhood which is boon to long term stabilization of home value.

The Main Street Library, Daily Press, Museums of the City as well as the Association itself have many photos which may be helpful with your preservation endeavors.

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

# YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD SLATE SPECIALIST

*Thank you to all of our Huntington Heights customers!*



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RAY SUTTLE, JR.  
HILTON RESIDENT

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## Neighborhood Watch Program

Community Resource Officer Donald Greathouse of the Newport News Police Department attended the NEHHPA Fall Social to discuss the advantages of implementing a neighborhood watch program. This neighborhood watch program would involve representatives from each block in the neighborhood who meet regularly with Officer Greathouse and the NEHHPA Neighborhood Watch Organizer.

With a block captain framework already in place by NEHHPA, the simplest way to initiate this program would be to take that framework and apply it to the neighborhood watch program. Residents with crime concerns could contact their Block Captain who would relay the information. Any neighborhood-wide concerns or warnings from the Newport News Police Department would also be delivered to residents by the coordinator and their block captains.

At the upcoming Winter Social, block captains will be asked to vote on whether to initiate a neighborhood watch program in our neighborhood through our existing block captain framework. Block captains and their coordinator would determine how often the group should meet. To voice any concerns, feel free to contact your block captain referenced elsewhere on this newsletter. Some block captain positions remain vacant and NEHHPA is accepting volunteers for those positions.

Thanks again to our block captains for their work in 2010 and we hope to continue to enhance our neighborhood in 2011.

## Block Captains

47th - 50th Vacant  
 51st - Gene Nicholson - 340 51st  
 52nd - Vacant  
 53rd - Vacant  
 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 6702 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 - Vacant  
 71st, 72nd, 73rd - Steve Hudak 319 71st  
 Belvedere and River Rd - Vacant

## *Park Decoration and Tree Lighting*

Join us at the North End Huntington Heights Park at 71st Street for the annual park decoration and tree lighting.

Decorating will begin at 2:30 PM on  
December 5, 2010

## Warwick Boulevard Plantings

The blazing hot summer was devastating to much of the landscaping along the Warwick Avenue corridor.

In light of past concerns expressed by NEHHPA of the importance of this landscaping, we would like to express their appreciation for the effort the city of Newport News has taken in cleaning out and replanting the parkway along the east side of Warwick Boulevard north of 60th Street.



*You're Invited To a*

*North End-Huntington Heights*

*Holiday Soup and Dessert Party*

*Date: December 12, 2010*

*Time 4:00pm - 6:00pm*

*Place: Noland Memorial United Methodist Church*

*This dinner is open to adults and children of the North End - Huntington Heights neighborhood. We ask everyone attending to bring a dessert and a beverage. An assortment of soups and bread will be provided.*

*There will be sing-alongs and a visit from Santa for the children. Please join us for dinner with your friends and neighbors and continue this North End tradition.*

*Also put this invitation on your refrigerator so you do not forget.*

*Michelle Carpenter - President, NEHHPA*

*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 46th 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

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