



# SouthWest Sentinel

monthly newsletter of the SouthWest Citizens Advisory Council

**Next meeting: OCTOBER 9, 2006**

**Carolina Pines Community Center**

**2305 Lake Wheeler Road**

**7:00 p.m.**

## Agenda

1. District 26 Police Report – Officer Upchurch and the introduction of our new District 26 Captain C. M. Mise
2. Parks and Recreation Report – Nickey Brewster
3. Housing Inspector Jerry Mahler – This is an opportunity to learn more about the responsibilities of a City of Raleigh Housing Inspector and what happens when we report problems in our neighborhoods. Now that the PROP has been watered down, we need to be more pro-active in protecting our quality of life. We do not have to endure problem houses or behaviors; however, we must learn what to do and how to participate in cleaning up problem issues.
4. Raleigh Oaks Shopping Center – The possibility of having a nightclub in the shopping center resulted many email conversations. Mr. Norton, Leasing Specialist with Ziff Properties, Inc., Charleston, SC; Shane Barnes, manager of Food Lion and District 26 Captain Mise will join our discussion about what is right and what is wrong with Raleigh Oaks. This is the time to clear up misconceptions about shopping center tenants, to voice specific concerns and to work together to make our only SW CAC shopping center a cleaner, safer, more attractive place for everyone – shoppers, tenants and property management alike. We all win when that happens!
5. Old business
6. New business

**A note from the chair ...** last month many SW CAC residents came together because of an issue of great concern that would affect our quality of life. That issue revolved around Raleigh Oaks Shopping Center. Now we have an opportunity to use that issue to correct any misconceptions we have and to work with the management and tenants of Raleigh Oaks Shopping Center. Rather than avoid problems and let them grow, can we work together to make needed improvements on all sides? Businesses cannot improve if they do not know what you, the shopper, perceive to be a problem. Remember, *he has the right to criticize who has the heart to help*. I hope each of you who reads this newsletter will bring a neighbor with you to the October SW CAC meeting and help us help each other. *he has the right to criticize who has the heart to help*.

Our September SW CAC meeting prompted this, another wonderful Special Places article by Linda Edmisten. We are fortunate to have someone with so much knowledge of historic events and places as a member of our CAC.

SWCAC meetings

2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays

7:00 p.m.

Carolina Pines

Community Center

2305 Lake Wheeler Rd.

Chairperson:

Mary Belle Pate

772-9460

Community Specialist:

R.J. Brown 831-6100

[R.J.Brown@ci.raleigh.nc.us](mailto:R.J.Brown@ci.raleigh.nc.us)

City Council Office:

890-3050

City Manager's Office:

890-3070

Raleigh Police (District 26)

831-6170

Police Non-Emergency:

831-6311

Crime Prevention:

831-6740

Crime Stoppers:

834-4357

Parks and Recreation

Nicky Brewster

831-6435

Graffiti Hotline:

831-6001

[graffiti@ci.raleigh.nc.us](mailto:graffiti@ci.raleigh.nc.us)

Gang Tip Hotline

890-3904

## Special Places - Dix Hill Historic District

### Dix Hill Historic District

The Dix Hill Historic District was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1990 for its statewide significance in North Carolina's history of advances in health and medicine, landscape architecture, and architecture. The district encompasses about 80 acres lying southwest of the intersection of S. Saunders Street and Lake Wheeler Road.

Present day Dix Hill was the result of a 19<sup>th</sup> century campaign by Dorothea Dix, a nationally-noted advocate of humane treatment of what were then referred to as the insane. Miss Dix, on a sustained tour of state capitals, successfully lobbied the North Carolina State Legislature to erect a state-of-the-art insane asylum, and on December 23, 1848, a commission chaired by former governor John Motley Morehead was established to conduct a search for appropriate acreage on which to begin the project. In 1851 the commission settled on a portion of Spring Hill, an 18<sup>th</sup> plantation established by Col. Theophilus Hunter, and later enlarged by his son, Theophilus, Jr., saying that “. . . after carefully examining the whole country in the vicinity of Raleigh, we chose a location west of the city and about one mile distant, which in our opinion was best adapted to that purpose . . . This location had a commanding view of the city and is believed to be perfectly healthy. The grounds are beautifully undulating and susceptible of improvement.”

The commission purchased 182 acres from Mr. Hunter, and hired the nationally-prominent architect, Alexander Jackson Davis, to design a hospital to the latest standards for care of the insane. The first patient was admitted February 22, 1856.

Miss Dix asked that the hospital not be named after her, but agreed that it should be named Dix Hill for her grandfather, Dr. Elijah Dix. It was not until 1956 that the legislature voted to honor her by officially changing the name to Dorothea Dix Hospital.

Throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a small amount of the acreage was used as a building site, and the balance was devoted to agricultural pursuits conducted by the patients, who grew their own food. The farming activities were conducted on the rear (west) of the property, while the grove, a vital element of the historic significance of the property, was enhanced in the belief that a tranquil setting aided in the treatment and recovery of the patients. In 1908, the hospital was enlarged to 1,315 acres.

The campus continued to evolve during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, with the addition of buildings designed by prominent architects. The beautiful grove on the hill at the entrance to the complex was nurtured, and during the Great Depression, architectural and landscape projects were undertaken by federal public works agencies. In 1952 the central pavilion of A.J. Davis's original hospital was demolished and replaced by a modern six-story hospital.

With the rise of community mental health facilities, the programs at Dix were scaled back, and much of the 1,315 acres has been surrendered to North Carolina State University. The hospital itself is scheduled to close around 2008. and the legislature is currently considering the future of the remaining 306 acres of the property.

# City of Raleigh COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT



## *Immanuel Kant's Categorical Imperative*

*What kind of world would it be if everyone behaved as I do?*

*What kind of schools would we have if every parent paid as little attention to them as I do?*

*What kind of neighborhood would mine be if all my neighbors paid the same attention to it that I pay?*



***Fall, 2006 Session has begun!***

***We are now opening registration for the Spring, 2007 Session.***

The Community Services Department, in partnership with Shaw University, launched its first Citizens' Participation Leadership Institute on March 2, 2006. We have worked hard to design a leadership-training event for you and your neighbors. We have aligned a 15 week series of thought-provoking workshops geared to sharpen your skills in community building. The Spring 2006 first class has graduated and we commenced our second session of 20 citizens on August 31, 2006. If you would like to get on the wait list for the Spring 2007 session (scheduled to start early January 2007), please contact Charlene Willard at 831-6095 (email: [charlene.willard@ci.raleigh.nc.us](mailto:charlene.willard@ci.raleigh.nc.us)) or visit us on the web at [www.raleighnc.gov](http://www.raleighnc.gov).

## ***Neighborhood Association Registry***

This program enhances citizen involvement by providing communication and partnering between various neighborhood organizations in the City of Raleigh, its extraterritorial jurisdiction and City government. The City desires to identify and support existing neighborhood 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 or e-mail [Kevin.smith@ci.raleigh.nc.us](mailto:Kevin.smith@ci.raleigh.nc.us).



## ***Neighborhood Improvement Matching Grants 2006***

The Neighborhood Improvement Matching Grants Program awards grants up to \$5,000 to neighborhood-serving or neighborhood-based organizations and individuals to initiate projects designed to benefit your neighborhood. All recipient groups must be enrolled with our *Neighborhood Association Registry*. Projects can be physical or social in nature, but must emphasize neighborhood input and involvement and be able to demonstrate how the project will benefit the neighborhood. Let's do it! Call 831-6100 for details. For details call 831-6100 or e-mail [Kevin.smith@ci.raleigh.nc.us](mailto:Kevin.smith@ci.raleigh.nc.us).

## ***Raleigh Neighborhood College***

The Neighborhood College is a program offered by the City of Raleigh in partnership with Wake County. **The Fall 2006 session is currently underway and registration has begun for Spring 2007.** 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 the things about government you always wanted to know, but didn't know who to ask! Classes are on Thursdays from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at various City locations. Only 25 students are accepted per session. For more details, including brochure or application, contact us at 831-6100



## ***Raleigh Neighborhood Exchange: "Many Neighborhoods . . . One Raleigh!"***

The Neighborhood Exchange Citizens Committee in partnership with the City of Raleigh's Community Services Department held its third successful Raleigh Neighborhood Exchange on September 8-9 at the Raleigh Sheraton Downtown. Dynamic presentations by citizens and City of Raleigh staff provided useful and timely information.

This annual event will convene annually every September as it has been proclaimed Neighborhoods Month in the City of Raleigh. Mark your calendars for the 4th Annual Raleigh Neighborhood Exchange in September 2007. Stay tuned for additional information! For details about previous and upcoming Neighborhood Exchanges call 831-6100.