

Ginter Park

The Queen Of Suburbs Yesterday, Today, & Tomorrow

Ginter Park Residents Association News



Dates to Remember...

Board Meeting
Tuesday, Nov. 8
7:00 p.m.
LGRA Building
Hawthorne & Walton

Chamberlayne Clean-Up
Saturday, Nov. 12
10 a.m.
Chamberlayne
and Azalea



Annual Meeting & Dinner
Thursday, Nov. 17
6:30 p.m.
St. Thomas' Church
Hawthorne & Walton

Holiday Party
Saturday, Dec. 3
7:30 - 11:30

ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER

Mark THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17 on your calendar for the GPRA Annual Business Meeting and dinner. This will wrap up the 2011 business year (although there is still the Holiday Party) with good food, good conversation, and updates on Ginter Park issues.

Councilmen Charles Samuels of the Second District and **Chris Hilbert** of the Third District have been invited to listen to our concerns and discuss city issues which may affect us.

We'll review highlights of 2011 (with some entertaining, maybe embarrassing, images). Officers for 2012 will be elected. This year a number of veterans are retiring, and their positions will be filled by newcomers. Come and meet them. Some new programs for 2012 will be proposed.

As usual, the evening will begin with a delicious dinner at 6:30 featuring an entrée prepared by **Meredith Strange-Boston** (with an additional vegetarian option). You should just bring a salad, side dish or dessert. We also expect to have childcare.

ART AND UNIQUE GIFTS ON DISPLAY

Northside Artists are holding their annual **Open Studio** event, Saturday, November 19, 10:00-4:00 and Sunday, November 20, 12:00-4:00. Thirty-three artists will be showing paintings, pottery, handmade jewelry, wooden furniture, sculpture, handwoven goods, hats, handbags, and homemade chocolate.

The art work will be for sale at 1519 Westwood Ave, 1514 Westwood Ave, 1501 Westwood Ave., 1350 Westwood-Ginter Place Lobby and 3313 Suffolk Road. Northside Artists have been holding this event for over 20 years and are pleased to be a part of the history of the Ginter Park community.

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www.historicginterpark.org



The **Ginter Park Welcome Committee** sends a HUGE Thank You to the following local merchants who have generously contributed to our new neighbor welcome bags!

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Ministers:

The Reverend Susan N. Eaves, Rector

The Reverend Susan Daughtry, Smith Assistant Rector

The Reverend June Hardy Dorsey, Assistant Rector

Dr. David McCormick, Director of Music

St. Thomas' Day School offers a weekday morning program for children, ages 2 through pre-kindergarten September through May.

Director: Mrs. Kelly Kane | Phone: 804-329-1117

GPRA

This newsletter is produced by:
 Ginter Park Residents Association
 P.O. Box 25374
 Richmond, Virginia 23260-5374

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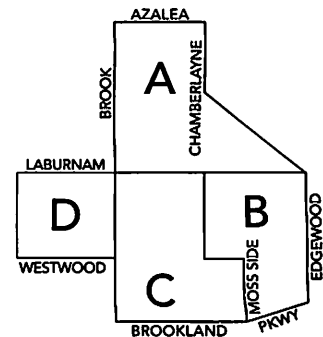
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Advertising and copy deadline is the second weekend of each month. Send comments, corrections and articles to: **Editorial Committee, P.O. Box 25374 Richmond, VA 23260**

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Crusade to Clean Chamberlayne

Kristen Allegood

It has been a while since the last Chamberlayne Avenue Initiative clean-up and it definitely shows! It is time to put trash in its place and make one of the main roads through Ginter Park look fantastic. One of my favorite anti-littering signs says, "Please do not discard cigarette butts on the ground. The cockroaches are getting cancer." We appreciate the support that we have received on our previous clean-ups and hope to have a fantastic turnout this time around as well!

Make one of the main roads
through Ginter Park look fantastic!

On Saturday November 12th (no rain date this time), we will have a neighborhood clean-up of Chamberlayne. Starting at 10 am, we will meet at the check cashing business on the SW corner of Chamberlayne Ave. and Azalea Ave. and head south. This is an incredibly dirty parking lot, so it is a great place to gather people and do some deep cleaning. Yes, I will bring a shovel this time.

The clean-city commission is providing gloves, safety vests, and trash bags. Along the route, coffee and hot chocolate will be available for volunteers. We will clean as far south on Chamberlayne as possible by noon. Trash collection will be coordinated by the clean-city commission. If we have enough volunteers, we will divide and conquer with half of the group cleaning north bound starting from Brookland Pkwy.



**PUT TRASH
IN ITS PLACE**

GPRA is generously offering a pizza lunch for clean-up volunteers following our clean-up. At noon, the clean-up will end at Ginter Park United Methodist Church, which is located at the NW corner of Chamberlayne Ave. and Laburnum Ave. Rides home should be arranged for 12:30 at GP United Methodist Church. Come out to clean up our community while having fun with your neighbors!

Contact Kristen Allegood with questions.
kristenallegood@hotmail.com or 404-273-2371

Keep leaves
AWAY
from stormwater inlets!

A collection of several oak leaves of various sizes and orientations, scattered around the text.

Benjamin J. Lambert, IV

Financial Advisor

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ART AND GIFTS Continued from Page 1

Long-established artists **Eliza Askin**, **Bill Kinsey**, **Faye Henderson**, **Brenda Stankus** and **Janice McMurray** have been a part of Northside Artists for many years. Eliza Askin began illustrating calendars with interesting landmarks of Richmond and invited people to her home when they were published. Brenda Stankus soon joined her doing watercolor portraits, and thus began the yearly "open studio" event. Eliza expanded to do wrapping paper with historic buildings, as well as a line of household items depicting Richmond.

Other artists in the neighborhood opened their houses and were joined by people with various talents. The newest participants can be found at Ginter Place Lobby, where resident **Bert Arens** will be showing jewelry made from antique buttons and delicate silk flowers, for which she has won awards. **Dick Levy** offers Shaker style wooden furniture, and **Jim Livesay**, a therapist at Zacharia Ganey, is showing his pen and ink drawings.

Beside artwork to be seen at 1501 Westwood Ave., soup and bread will be available for purchase.

*Artists offering works in clay, jewelry,
various painting media, printmaking,
metal and chocolate.*

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HOLIDAY GALA

Saturday December 3rd

The annual Historic Ginter Park Holiday Gala will be Saturday, December 3rd from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. This year's event will take place again at the Ginter Park Woman's Club, corner of Rennie and Seminary Avenues, enter on the Rennie side.



This year we will enjoy the musical talents and showmanship of The Flashbacks, so be sure to wear your dancing shoes!



For those members who would like a quieter place to catch up with friends and enjoy the tempting delights provided by our neighbor, Bobby Butsavage of CATERAIDE, the house portion of the facility will be available.

Admission is by invitation only. If you haven't paid your dues for 2011, it's not too late to get an invitation — See the dues coupon in this newsletter. If you're not sure if you have paid or not, please contact **Karen Beasley**, 303-6770 or KarenBeasley@me.com. Single member households may bring a guest. Those members who would like to bring visiting house guests may do so at \$25 per couple.

*Look for your invitation in the mail.
It's going to be a great evening!*

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RICHMOND PUBLIC SCHOOLS: A GINTER PARK PRIMER

By Norma Murdoch-Kitt

Third District School Board Member



Richmond Public Schools became 100% accredited this year! That is big news because 7 years ago, RPS was the second lowest statewide in the percentage of students passing the SOL tests. The quality of our public schools—and the perception of that quality—impacts all of us, regardless of whether we have children in school. It affects whether people will move into Ginter Park or whether they will stay. It affects property values, the crime rate, and whether companies will locate in Richmond.

Understanding your public school options if you live in Ginter Park can be confusing, because, at every level, there are schools to which your student may be automatically admitted because of your address, others to which the student may apply and be selected by lottery, and other schools with a competitive application process. (Details of the application processes and deadlines may be found on the RPS web page or on the web page of the individual schools.)

Because of limited funding, pre-school space is available for about 1 of 4 four-year-olds, with priority going to low income families and students with special education needs. Although RPS has established regional pre-schools in the eastern, southern and western sections of the city, on the northside, 4 year-olds are in the individual elementary schools. If your child is selected, the space may not be at the closest school.

All 5 year-olds attend full day Kindergarten. For Kindergarten through fifth grade most of Ginter Park is zoned to attend **Linwood Holton Elementary**, at the corner of Laburnum and Hermitage. Holton, with a very diverse population of 569 students, has an award-winning principal, David Hudson. Many of the teachers have achieved National Board certification. SOL pass rates this year were: English 89, Math 89, History 87, Science 87. Also in this zone are Rosedale, Bellevue and Sherwood Park.

A very large and active PTA has helped to provide a wide variety of after-school sports and cultural activities. Parents and neighborhood volunteers have constructed an outdoor classroom and learning garden.

With the help of Chefs to Schools volunteers, students create dishes from vegetables they grow with the goal of improving nutrition.

The part of Ginter Park bounded by Chamberlayne, Laburnum and North Avenues is zoned to attend the **Mary Scott** annex on Moss Side Avenue for grades K-2 and **Ginter Park Elementary** on Chamberlayne for grades 3-5. The two schools have 523 students, who wear uniforms because of the preference of their PTA. Their attendance zone also includes Washington Park, Providence Park and northern Highland Park.

Richmond Public Schools
100% ACCREDITED
this year!

The school has a new principal this fall. Although the Ginter Park building is almost 100 years old, it is now ADA compliant after the installation of an elevator this summer. The percentage of pass rates on the SOLs this year were: English 90, Math 89, History 84, and Science 80.

In addition to the school for which a student is in zone, any student may apply to any other elementary school which has an opening. If the number of applications exceeds the number of available spaces, students are selected via a lottery. Once a student is accepted by an out-of-zone elementary school, he/she may continue through fifth grade. If siblings become old enough to attend that school while the first child is still there, they may also attend. In years past some Ginter Park families elected to attend **William Fox** in the Fan (English 91, Math 90, History 77, Science 100) or **Mary Mumford** in the West End (English 97, Math 96, History 98, Science 95).

RPS

North Richmond Middle Schools

For middle school, all of Ginter Park and nearly all of north Richmond is zoned to attend Henderson Middle School on Old Brook Road. The Ginter Park Residents Association is encouraging greater neighborhood involvement with Henderson, mirroring the positive impact of our involvement with Holton. Henderson's 604 students pass rates on this year's SOLs were: English 80, Math 75, History 75, Science 80.

Henderson received a \$500,000 grant from Altria to hire a group called Higher Achievement to work with incoming 6th graders beginning this summer and 9 hours a week after school during the school year. Like all middle schools the academically able are offered algebra, geometry, foreign language and other high school subjects, thus freeing up time to take advanced placement courses in high school. In addition to the usual music electives, Henderson has a harp choir. Many students take art and dance classes after school at the Pine Camp Cultural Center next door.

Two middle schools draw students from the entire city by competitive application. The Franklin Middle School Leadership Academy, located in Franklin Military Academy in the East End, started two years ago. It now has a total of 300 pupils. Students wear uniforms and

focus on leadership development. Although many apply for admission to Franklin Military Academy for high school, they are not required to do so.

The other middle school program which has admission by very competitive application is the Middle School International Baccalaureate Program, housed in Lucille Brown Middle School on Jahnke Road. Beginning this fall 75 students per year were added to this program, which has become very popular in its 10 years of existence due to the high level of achievement of its students.

Students may apply for any opening at the seven other comprehensive middle schools. If applications exceed openings, students are selected by lottery. The families must provide their own transportation.

Two middle schools which rarely have openings but have been popular with Ginter Park families are Albert Hill on Roseneath (population 500, SOL pass rate: English 95, Math 93, History 93 and Science 100) and Binford on Floyd Ave. (population 423, SOL pass rates: English 84, Math 82, History 95 and Science 91). Both schools have partnership with the Richmond Symphony for music instrumentation. Many Binford students take art classes at the Visual Art Center.



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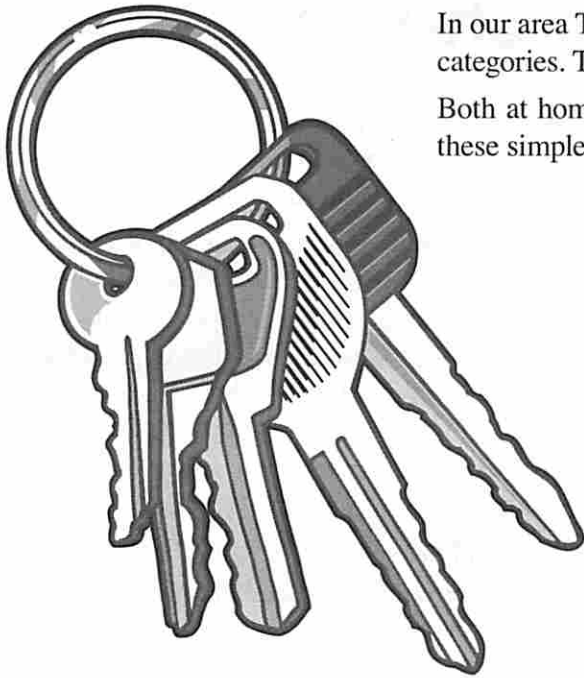
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And going back to the very early days of Ginter Park, a newspaper article announced that the newly formed Ginter Park Mothers' Club, along with other clubs in the city, would conduct a "Rubber Day" on Nov. 17, 1908. "On this day old rubber articles—shoes, hot water bags, tires, caps, coats, gloves or pipes—will be received at certain rubber stations...where wagons will fetch the rubber from these stations to a firm in the city, where it will be disposed of" for the benefit of charity.

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HOLIDAY GALA



Saturday December 3rd
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