Port Anne Owners Association, 211 William Way, Williamsburg, VA 23185 PortAnne@verizon.net, Ph: 757-220-9255

A New Beginning

Berkeley Management Now in Place

It has been a few months now, and our new management company, Berkeley, is firmly in place and things are running smoothly. As some of you know, there were a few "kinks" in the system to be ironed out, such as incorrect credit and debit balances on homeowner accounts, changes in banks and accounting systems, etc. But these have all been dealt with promptly and efficiently.

The Board also authorized changes in our phone and internet provider, reducing monthly costs and saving enough money to finally bring Ida and the office into the 21st century, with new computer, printer, high-speed internet and wireless access for the guest rooms. This latter feature had been widely requested by guests, and it also will allow board members and homeowners to access the

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internet during Board meetings and other events that may take place in the clubhouse.

The Board is continuing to strive to streamline procedures and documents, as well as our meetings, which usually now last only about an hour, if not less. By working closely with Joe Gagliano, our Berkeley property manager, and by working together respectfully, we believe that Association affairs are being managed smoothly and professionally – so smoothly, in fact, that we have had very few attendees at the last few Board meetings!

GENERAL ASSEMBLY PASSES NEW POA PROVISIONS

The Governor recently signed into law some new provisions in the Virginia Property Owners
Association (POA) Act that have a direct and immediate impact on our Association. The most important of these is a provision that allows
Associations to obtain approvals by members via electronic communication.

The new legislation authorizes community associations that currently are governed by the POA Act and the Condominium Act to utilize "new technologies" to transmit notice and obtain signatures, votes, consents or approvals. This will

allow the Board to circulate governing document amendments quickly, for example, and hopefully obtain the necessary approvals more easily. Of course, for those who may not have email, traditional hard-copies will be provided; however, the Board, in the interest of keeping photocopying and postage costs down, will continue to make use of whatever cost-saving technologies are available and allowable by law, also saving a few of our beautiful trees in the process.

SPOTLIGHT ON....JIM DUCIBELLA



Congratulations to neighbor Jim Ducibella on his recent induction to the Virginia Sports Hall of Fame. The 39th Annual Induction Banquet was held on April 24, and Jim joined his fellow "Class of 2010" inductees - which included Alonzo Mourning and Jim Dombrowski, among others -- in celebrating their many accomplishments.

Jim was born in Washington, DC, graduated from Xavier University in 1974, and completed his masters at Marquette University in 1976. He joined the Virginia-Pilot staff in 1981, covering ODU men's and women's basketball, then Virginia football and basketball, and then the Washington Redskins for over 20 years. He has been the recipient of many awards, including Virginia Sportswriter of the Year for 1985 and 1989. Jim hosted a daily sports talk show and also is author

of "Par Excellence," on the history of gold in Virginia.

Please take the opportunity, when you see Jim, to offer congratulations on this well-deserved honor.

Again, congratulations Jim!

UPDATE ON LEAF REMOVAL SERVICES

At the last annual meeting, the Board was asked to follow up with the City regarding the lack of leaf removal services for the Port Anne Community. This issue has a long history going back to the late 1980's when Port Anne was established as a private development and our streets, therefore, were neither subject to City standards nor eligible for City maintenance. In 1999, Port Anne entered into an agreement with the City under which the City was ceded ownership of the streets and an annual payment from the Association in return for some, but not all, maintenance services normally associated with City-owned streets.

The 1999 agreement was advantageous to Port Anne residents because the City now has responsibility for paying for the bulk of regular street maintenance, including periodic repaving. Our monthly association dues would otherwise be much higher. At the same time, the City declined to assume certain other services, including leaf removal. This was due in part to the fact that the City itself is ineligible for State assistance for streets that do not conform to State standards. Port Anne's cul-de-sacs typically do not meet State standards.

Since 1999, Port Anne representatives have raised the issue of the lack of leaf removal with City officials three times, including most recently last winter following the last annual meeting. The City has continued to decline to accept this additional responsibility. As many of you know, the City is facing a projected shortfall in next year's budget, requiring staff and program cuts etc. to bring the budget into balance. Considering this fact, the Board decided that it would not be productive to raise this issue again with the City at the present time. At the same time, the current Board, as with past Boards, is committed to pursuing this issue with the City when appropriate and when financial conditions improve. Your continued support and understanding in this endeavor is appreciated.

Social Committee Events - Meet the New Neighbors on June 4th

Welcome to new Social Committee Co-Chairs Jennifer Stevens and Sue Watson. Following a Social Committee brainstorming session on May 6^{th} , the Social Committee has planned a fun series of functions for the remainder of the year. Please save the following dates on your calendars. Further details, such as times, will be forthcoming.



June 4th -- Friday, 5:00 to 7:00pm - Meet the New Neighbors

July 4th -- Annual 4th of July Party

October -- Desserts at the Annual Meeting November/December -- Chili Cook-Off

NOMINATING COMMITTEE SEEKS HOMEOWNERS INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE BOARD

Port Anne homeowners are still being asked to consider running for the Port Anne Homeowners' Board of Directors. There will be four vacancies to be filled at the Annual Meeting in October. Every homeowner is encouraged to consider running to contribute their experiences and ideas to maintain and improve our community. Will you consider running? Please contact Paul Miyamasu, Mil Maloney, or Beverly Daikos for more information.



Virginia's Hurricane Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday

Virginia's Hurricane Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday is May 25-31. During that week, you can stock up on supplies for protecting your home and business during hurricane and flooding season. You can also add items to your family's emergency supply kit. A list of eligible items is included on the last page of the newsletter. A complete copy of the Virginia Department of Taxation's Hurricane Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday Guidelines and Rules are available online at www.tax.virginia.gov/salestaxholiday.

IS YOUR CURRENT DIRECTORY BRIGHT ORANGE?

Do you have the current 2010 Port Anne Directory? If the copy you have is not bright orange, then you do not have the latest edition of the directory, with current contact information for old and new neighbors, and Board and management information. Please stop by Ida's office to pick up your copy of this very useful book.

THE POOL IS NOW OPEN

The Port Anne pool is now open, cleaned and ready for you to jump in. Please remember good pool safety and etiquette. For example, please close the umbrellas when you leave, so that they are not blown over in a storm. Also, please use the side entrance to use the restrooms so that water is not dripped on the main room carpeting. Enjoy the sun, use sunscreen, and stay safe.

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Final Call for the May Ladies Luncheon:

Hostess: Chris Lipfert

Date & Time: Thursday, May 20th @ 12:00 Noon

Place: The Trellis

RSVP: Chris @ 220-0418 or rlipfert@widomaker.com or Ida @ 220-9255 by Monday, May

17th

Please meet at the clubhouse at 11:30 A.M., if you want to carpool. The last car will leave no later than 11:40 sharp.

Clubhouse Items – If you borrow anything, please return them to the clubhouse promptly

This is a gentle reminder that, if you want to borrow any clubhouse items, such as folding chairs, tables, trays, etc., please first let Ida know so that she can make sure that the items are not needed for a function at the clubhouse. And, of course, please return the items as soon as possible after their use.

It should be remembered that the clubhouse items have been paid for by all of us - which is why we are all allowed to borrow them; however, if the privilege of borrowing is abused, then the Board may have to reconsider and discontinue allowing items to be removed. So far, this has not been a major problem, but we have noticed that several small items are missing. So please look around your homes and if you find something that may have accidentally been removed from the clubhouse when cleaning up after a party, please return it.

By law, the items listed below are exempt from Virginia sales tax between May 25 and May 31.

\$60 or less

Shop for items in this list that have a sales price of \$60 or less:

- Artificial ice, blue ice, ice packs and reusable ice
- Batteries (excluding automobile or boat batteries)
- o AAA, AA, C and D size
- o 6- or 9-volt
- o Cell phone batteries
- Any battery-powered light sources, including flashlights, lanterns and glow sticks -- no candles
- Tarpaulins, plastic sheeting, plastic drop cloths and other flexible waterproof sheeting
- Bungee cords and rope
- Ground anchor systems or tie down kits
- Ratchet straps
- Duct tape
- Carbon monoxide detectors
- Smoke detectors
- Fire extinguishers
- Empty gas, propane or diesel fuel tanks or containers
- Water storage containers, including buckets, barrels, canteen, cans, cooler
- Nonelectric food storage coolers
- Bottled water, any size and number of bottles, including flavored, carbonated and vitamin water
- Manual can openers
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radios (including radios with an electrical power option)
- Two-way radios
- Weather band radios and NOAA Weather Radios
- Storm shutter devices that are made, rated and marketed specifically for the prevention of storm damage to windows -- no plywood
- Cell phone chargers
- First aid kits

\$1,000 or less

Shop for items in this list that have a sales price of \$1,000 or less:

- Portable generators and generator power cords
- Inverters and inverter power cables