

Our Town

JUNE A NEWSLETTER 1991

The Port Norfolk Civic League P.O. Box 7114 Ports. Va, 23707

The Port Norfolk Civic League invites all residents of Port Norfolk to attend their meetings, they occur every month on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 at the Recreation Center, 432 Broad St.

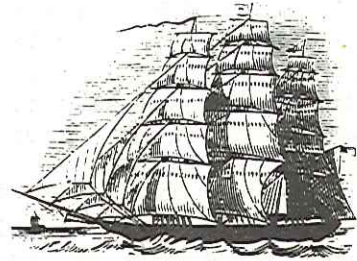
Program Note Mr. Luke McCoy will be the guest speaker at the June 6th Civic League Meeting. The topic of discussion will be about the new semi-automatic garbage collection system.

Don't forget about the Pre-4th of July picnic celebration June 29th at 4:00 at the Scout Cabin on Hamilton Ave. The Civic League will provide hot dogs, hamburgers, buns, paper products, drinks, condiments, & watermellon. We ask that you bring some type of covered dish like potatoe salad, beans, chips, etc.. We will have volley ball, horseshoes, & perhaps a few other suprises. Come on out & join the fun.

Birthdays For June HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Ralph Batten
Houston Bennett
Steve Bowen
Cathy Duggan
James G Wolf

Margaret Edmondson
Tiare M Emory
Dot Hollins
Liz James
Willie M Nelmes



Nice Yard

Yard of the Month

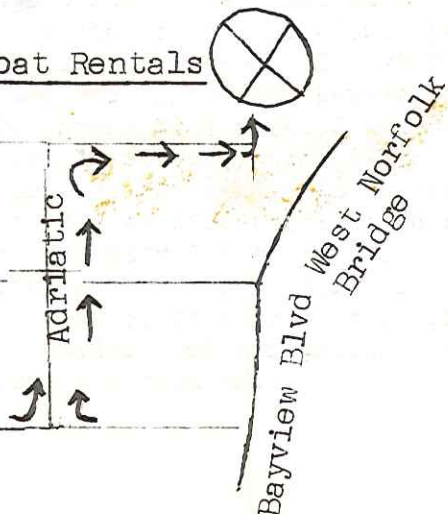
May; Sharyn & Jerry Downs, 403 Chautauqua Ave.
June; 547 Florida Ave. Homeowner- Mrs. Mary Mclauchlin & Groundskeeper- Mr. Andrew Murray.

London Blvd.

Turn off Mt. Vernon on to Adriatic take a right on to Douglas go 1 block, turn left on Bayview Blvd.

Douglas
Florida

Mt. Vernon Ave



Culpepper's Boat Rentals

Culpepper's Boat Rentals

Phone # (397-4215)

Located In Historic Port Norfolk at 3009 Bayview Blvd. Hours are 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. 7 days a week May through Sept. Culpepper's has been in operation for 87 years. Cully Sr. ran the business for many years until his death in 1970. It is still a family owned & operated business by Cassie & T.G. Culpepper. Cassie tells us that she will soon be 79 years young. When asked the question Do you remember when all the neighborhood children use to stand in line to buy penny candy? She smiled fondly and answered with a resounding yes! (For I was among them and will always cherish this childhood memory)"But all we have now is 5¢ & 10¢ candy." Even to date when the children come in I am very positive with them but I don't allow them to misbehave, I tell them now look one of you is leaving- the bad language or you! And after they apologize everything is ok." Cassie's son T.G. tells us that they have 25 boats which rent at \$12.00 per day. Each boat can hold 4 people. The boats are launched by Culpepper's personnel. No motor rentals are available but you may bring your own. In case of storms two boats are on hand if someone needs help getting in. T.G. says business has declined since Bayview Blvd. has become a dead end street & that it use to be a popular family & neighborhood place to come & spend the day fishing, crabbing, & boating. Cassie pointed out that even if you are not into fishing or crabbing, rowing a boat can be a recreational way to exercise. Culpeppers's sells fishing rods, Daiwa & Penn reels. Oars & anchors, lifevests, crabnets, bait & tackle , ice, coolers, cold drinks, snacks, & live crabs. Gift certificates are available on merchandise only- no cash returns. A 10% discount is available to senior citizens on boat rentals only. Culpepper's has provided wholesome family recreation for 87 years. I would encourage that the neighborhood be aware & support this distinct Port Norfolk business and not allow it to become extinct.

Diana D Harrell
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 Newsletter Chairperson

 Reprinted from the November 1988 issue of Our Town A Newsletter.

Port Norfolk's role in local history reaches back to Colonial times when the area was a "glebe" or farm, owned by the Anglican church. Port Norfolk was a deeply forested area back in the 18 th century; there are reports of indians who lived in the woods around Port Norfolk. These early residents could be seen downtown on market day, taking shots at pennies thrown out by curious spectators. The indians kept whatever pennies they hit with their guns.

Port Norfolk figures into Portsmouth's involment in the Revolutionary War. It was the site of Collier's Raid. Portsmouth was a valuable conquest for the British due to its large harbor and the Gosport Shipyard. Keeping the area a British possession was difficult due to the resistance of the Virginia Army. Portsmouth was a source of supplies to Washington's troops farther north and in an effort to cut off the supplies, Commodore Sir George Collier planned a twilight amphibious landing at "The Glebe", Port Norfolk's name at that time. On the evening of May 8th, Collier's men sailed up the Elizabeth River and landed 28 transports with 1800 troops on the beaches of what is now Bayview Boulevard. Early in the morning of the 9th, Collier's troops marched to Scotts Creek, crossed the creek and entered Fort Nelson, now Hospital Point. Collier's ground troops took Fort Nelson from the rear while his ships bombed the Fort from the front.

This surprise attack caught the town of Portsmouth asleep and unsuspecting, including the troops at Fort Nelson which was minimally fortified that day. Collier took over the Fort and the city with little resistance. He captured and burned the Gosport Shipyard and several American ships. However, Collier's treatment of Portsmouth was more "lenient" than Lord Dunmore's three years earlier. Collier did not permit vandalism or destroy homes or allow his men to loot or assault the citizens, due to his high opinion of Portsmouth as a British asset.

Collier held Portsmouth captive until May 24, when he left for New York to participate in the intensified warfare occuring farther north. Portsmouth continued to pass back and forth into British hands several more times during the Revolutionary War but the city was never "taken by surprise" again by a daring midnight raid from Port Norfolk.