

# The Village Voice

OCTOBER 2009

## Village Events

**October 12th, 6:00 - 7:00**  
**HV Kiwanis Club Mtg.**

Hilton Presbyterian Church  
We need a few more people for 25 members to become chartered. We will then serve the children of the Greater Hilton Village area.

**(Oct 12th) SAME NIGHT  
& SAME LOCATION  
(Hilton Presbyt. Church)  
HHV Inc.  
MEMBERSHIP  
MEETING**

All Neighbors are invited.  
Discussion: October Street-Fest, HV Holiday Home Tour, and Details on the HHV National Neighborhood Awards

**October 14th, 10:30 a.m.**  
**Horticulture Group Meeting**  
Hosted by Ann Richards 595-6912

**October 19th, 7:00 p.m.**  
**HHV Book Club**  
Discussion: The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo, Author, Stieg Larsson) Kathi Griffin's (94 Hopkins)

**HHV ANNUAL DUES \$10**  
Fiscal Year Oct 1st - September 30th  
Your support allows HHV Inc. to fund many wonderful & exciting Hilton Village neighborhood Events  
**Membership Form/List of HV Block Captains - page 6**

## **Hilton Village October StreetFest 2009** **Saturday, October 24th, 11am – 5pm (Main/Warwick)** **Children's Costume Parade 11am (Hilton Elementary to Warwick)**

Hilton's October StreetFest, hosted by the HV merchants, will once again hit the boulevard. Every fall and spring we celebrate the Village in a very special way. Booths offering art, craft, jewelry, food, flowers, health and beauty, home décor and more for Hilton's annual festivals. Concessions, music, children's activities, demonstrations, and lots of fun for the neighbors and community. You'll also want

to make time to visit the many unique Hilton Village specialty shops. The annual children's Halloween costume parade will begin at 11am (Hilton Elementary). Bubbles, Bubbles and more Bubbles will fill Main Street as the children and families dressed in costume proceed to Warwick Blvd. Everyone is invited to participate. **For information on festival booth space, contact Jennifer Gambill (Lockworks - 369-4697)**

## **Historic Hilton Village Named One of the TOP TEN Great Neighborhoods in the Nation**

**COMPLETE STORY ON PAGES 5-6**

**Neighbors, Please join us for the Recognition & Awards Ceremony**  
**October 24th, 10:30 am, Main Street Library**

## **A Message from HHV President Bill Black**

Fall is here in the Village and that means cool evenings and beautiful leaves on our trees. It is also the beginning of the fiscal year, October 1, for Historic Hilton Village, Inc. It has been a very fast year and a story of teamwork from the HHV Merchants, "Christmas Open House," and the visit by Santa to the largest Fourth of July parade we have had. In between we had the front door decorations competition during the holidays, Annual Easter Egg Hunt, the Pink Flamingo Garden Tour and Green Glove Award and now we are preparing for the merchants of October StreetFest.

These were all very successful events and even greater things are ahead for the Village. If you are new to the Village then I encourage you to get involved with the community through membership and participation in HHV projects & events. You may take a break from community activities for a few years but I encourage you to become involved once again. We are only caretakers for the buildings but we share our lives, build friendships and new relationships as a part of a caring community. Thanks again to everyone for making HHV a part of your life in Hilton Village.

# Join the *Greater* Hilton Committee

## Increasing Communication & Awareness of Neighborhood News & Events

I'm sure you will agree that Hilton is the best neighborhood in Newport News. Yes, it's been said that Hilton is *great* neighborhood in which to live and raise a family. Hilton Village is the keystone of the area with attractive and historic features. And residents from the surrounding neighborhoods feel a sense of pride living in the Hilton area. Often people refer to *greater* Hilton and include Warwick on the James, Brandon Heights, Rivermont, and other neighborhoods that surrounding Hilton Village. As an effort to promote community pride and spirit throughout the entire *greater* Hilton area, a new HHV committee has formed to lead the '**Hooray for Hilton**' cheer. So many good things happen in and around the village, this new *Greater* Hilton Committee hopes to increase communication and awareness of neighborhood news and events. An invitation to join the Hilton Village Association (HHV) is

extended to all those who live in the *greater* Hilton area. One of the goals of the committee is to establish a contact person (block captain) from each street in Rivermont, Brandon Heights, and Warwick on the James, to increase communication on news and events. If you have an interest in serving on this committee, your input and participation is welcomed. Join us for the next GHC Meeting, November 3rd, 6:30pm, 301 Ferguson Ave. (595-8269) [wvonohlen@cox.net](mailto:wvonohlen@cox.net)



## Hilton Neighborhood News Email List

There is an easy and convenient way to keep up with Hilton news and events. Join 300+ neighbors who receive Hilton Neighborhood News e-mails weekly. We have a great neighborhood and being on the e-mail list keeps you informed of events

It's Very Easy. Just Contact:

HHVWatch[@gmail.com](mailto:HHVWatch@gmail.com) and request that he add your name and e-mail to the list. Encourage your neighbors to join too!

## HILTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL Receives 2009 National Blue Ribbon Award

U.S. Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan, announced that our own Hilton Elementary School (HES) has been named a 2009 Blue Ribbon School. The award honors schools around the country that are academically superior, and have made dramatic gains in student achievement and helped close achievement gaps among minority and disadvantages students. Hilton is one of only 264 schools in the country to achieve this honor. Last week Dr. Ashby Kilgore (NNPS), Mary Jo Anastasio (HES Principal), teachers & staff, NNPS school board members, City Council, hundreds of students, parents, Hilton neighbors, business & community leaders filled the school's front lawn expanding across River Road to cut the blue ribbon in celebration of this very prestigious honor. Congratulations Hilton Elementary. Thank you Mary Jo Anastasio, Charlene Bazemore, teachers, and staff for providing our Hilton Village children with a quality first-class education. We're very proud. Congratulations !!!



## IN THE NEWS

**CONGRATULATIONS Peter & Tracey Dujardin & their son Matthew** on the birth of their daughter/sister, **Katherine** (Hopkins St.)

**CONGRATULATIONS Ryan & Michelle Frantz & their son Matthew** on the July 17<sup>th</sup> birth of two precious twins, **Lucas Shires** (4lb 12oz) and **Evelyn Faith** (5lbs 3oz). Ryan is not only a proud father & a very dedicated family man but he spends what time he has off each day to direct the Hilton Village Neighborhood Watch and Neighborhood News programs. The daily/weekly/monthly email updates are the direct result of Ryan's dedication and concern for each and every HV neighbor. **THE GOAL:** For Communication to INCREASE & for Crime to DECREASE. Thank You Ryan for helping to make HHV an even better & safer place to live.

### HILTON NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH & NEWS Group

To add your email address to the list  
Email: [HHVWatch@gmail.com](mailto:HHVWatch@gmail.com)

**COGRATULATIONS Kim & James & newborn son Sam Landrum**  
200 block of Palen Avenue



### PENINSULA COMMUNITY THEATRE (PCT) SCHEDULE

**October 2 - 18, 2009**  
The Philadelphia Story

**December 4 - 20, 2009**  
The Best Christmas Pageant Ever

**595-5PCT (5728)**

## HORTICULTURE GROUP MEETING

This month's Horticulture Group luncheon will be held in the lovely home of **Ann Richards (595-6912)** on Wednesday October 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. Nancy McPhail from the City of Newport News will be speaking to the group on Water Conservation. This very popular group meet on the second Wednesday of each month and all are welcome to join. For More Information Please Contact:  
**Gladys Lash - 596-5693, Jan Black - 596-9132 or Barbara Insley - 596-5019**

### THE ANNUAL HHV GREEN GLOVE AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

It was a very difficult decision because of all the hard work and tremendous improvements to so many of the HHV yards this year. Neighbors, thanks for your care, pride, and spirit in keeping Hilton Village so Beautiful. After long deliberations in what turned out to be a very close contest, the committee announced the following two winners for the **2009 Most Improved Yards in Historic Hilton Village.**

### CONGRATULATIONS

**Kim, 82 Main Street  
&  
Caroline, 71 Post Street**



The traditional **Green Glove Award Yard Flags** were placed in both of these beautiful yards. **Great Job Kim and Caroline & a special thanks to the judges and everyone involved in this fun spirited tradition.**

Get the Complete HHV Pink Flamingo Garden Tour CD. **ONLY \$5.** Contact Photographer & HHV neighbor, George Gardner. [596-1590biggSMYL@verizon.net](mailto:596-1590biggSMYL@verizon.net)

**An EVENING HORTICULTURE GROUP is being formed with great response. Contact Andrea at 595-2292**

### HV MILITARY SPOUCE SUPPORT GROUP

Please lend a helping hand of support to the deployed service member's spouse & families who reside throughout our Greater Hilton neighborhoods. Contact: **Erica Kruithof at (757) 254-2273**  
[ekruithof4@yahoo.com](mailto:ekruithof4@yahoo.com)

# Ben Whanger Gives Back To The Hilton Neighborhood

## Hilton neighbor, Ben Whanger

has very special memories of his childhood. Attending Hilton Presbyterian Preschool



each morning & then directly across the street Ben spent the next five years at St. Andrews Episcopal School. He

often reflects on the support and encouragement he has received over the years from the Hilton community. Support from friends, neighbors, teachers and the church during very difficult times in his life.

At the age of three, Ben was diagnosed with acute lymphocytic leukemia which is the most common form of blood cancer among children. It was a long battle that went into remission in May of 1994. He remembers the long trips back and forth that his parents (Richard & Donna) provided to the Medical College of Virginia for required treatments. While Ben remembers many difficult and challenging times in his life, he also holds great memories of what he refers to as a very supportive Hilton community. These memories of encouragement and support provided Ben the motivation to come up with a creative way to give back to his community. Ben now owns a successful lawn care company called James River Landscaping Inc. ([www.JamesRiverLandscaping.com](http://www.JamesRiverLandscaping.com))

In January, 2008, Ben created a program called HANDIL (Helping a Newly Diagnosed Individual with Lawn Care).

“recent” diagnosis of a blood cancer such as leukemia or lymphoma.

The program isn’t designed for Ben’s crew to go out and cut these particular lawns but just the opposite. Ben said he wouldn’t have it any other way than to personally cut these yards himself. “The creation of this program has Nothing to do with building my business, but it has everything to do with building up the family and patient’s spirits and moral, and to encourage these patients and their families.”

Ben has a strong entrepreneurial spirit and a very positive sense of direction. He’s focused, he’s tremendously self-driven, and this young business owner has all the ingredients that have lead to the tremendous successes that he has already achieved. With the long physical hours that Ben works each day, he has still found time to attend and complete a Certification in Landscape & Design from Tidewater Community College. Ben is currently preparing to enroll in an Associates Degree program in Small Business Management.

Staying active is one things Ben enjoys the most. A Leukemia Lymphoma Support group was started by Ben in 2008. “I was inspired by the long term survivors group from MCV. We meet once a year for a retreat in Richmond. Because the Hampton Roads area did not have a support group for young adults, I created one in 2008 for this area called Cancer Patients & Cancer Survivors Group. Ages 19 – 35 and still holding monthly meetings“

It is rare to find a young 23-year-old who unselfishly models his life and business, around the concept of “giving back to others” Ben has not only made this a part of his life, but he has perfected it. We live in a fast-paced forever growing society laced with dishonesty, greed, and deception. When a good friend shared the Ben Whanger story, it was like a breath of fresh air. With all of the obstacles, hurdles and struggles Ben had to overcome, he refused to let it get the best of him. He set his sights on much greater things and as a result he has become a great example and positive role model for today’s youth to look up to and follow.

[www.JamesRiverLandscaping.com](http://www.JamesRiverLandscaping.com)

**Ben Whanger (757) 870-4598**

Cancer Patients & Survivors Group, contact Debra Abney at 1-800-766-0797.



## Book Store Benefits the Public Library

The Friends of the Newport News Public Library (FNNPL)

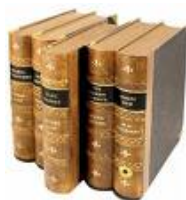
operates a Used Book Store in the Main Street Library. The Store offers gently-used hard

& paper back fiction and non-fiction books for adults children There are some VHS tapes, CDs, DVDs, and coffee table books. Hours are Monday through Thursday 10 am to 8 pm, Friday 10

am to 5 pm, Saturday 10 am to 4 pm, & Sunday 2 to 4 pm. FNNPL is glad to receive your gently used books for resale in the store. Volunteers to serve in the book store are welcome.



**Contact: Kathi Griffin**  
**223-9591 kathi0624@cox.net**



&

## Tom & Sandy Contribute to the Beautification of Historic Hilton Village

Hilton Village neighbors Tom Joyce & Sandy Dekker understand the meaning of giving back to their community. The newly developed Renaissance Garden (located at 96 Main - Retro Plaza Intl) was initiated & worked on by Tom, & Sandy, Grah Hurdle, and several other Hilton neighbors. Since its completion Tom & Sandy have eagerly taken responsibility for the garden’s year round upkeep. When you ride by the garden & notice someone trimming, weeding, watering, etc...more than likely it’s Tom & Sandy. Give a “soft toot” on your horn to let them know of our appreciation. There are literally dozens of HHV neighbors with similar stories who over the decades have given unlimited hours of volunteer time making this the wonderful neighborhood that it is today. A very special thank you to past, present, and future neighborhood volunteers. Thanks for making HHV one of the greatest neighborhood in the nation.

## American Planning Association Designates Historic Hilton Village One of “Top 10” Great Neighborhoods in the Nation for 2009

The American Planning Association (APA) announced today that **Historic Hilton Village has been designated one of 10 Great Neighborhoods for 2009 by APA's *Great Places in America* program.** APA Great Places exemplify exceptional character and highlight the role planners and planning play in creating communities of lasting value. Other 2009 *Great Places in America* designations in Virginia are the Virginia Beach Board Walk in Virginia Beach and Duke of Gloucester Street in Williamsburg.

APA singled out **Historic Hilton Village** as an iconic example of timeless neighborhood planning concepts espoused by renowned British urban planner Sir Ebenezer Howard. Historic Hilton Village was the first of approximately 100 federally financed and constructed housing projects during World War I, yet still remains an exemplary national model for communities wanting to plan and build compact, pedestrian-friendly places.

“From its beginnings in 1918, **Hilton Village** has been a crown jewel in our community,” said Mayor Joe S. Frank. “The residents take tremendous pride in the uniqueness, character and historical integrity of their neighborhood and are focused on keeping **Hilton Village** very much the same as it was when originally planned and developed.”

“The timeless design of **Hilton Village** has made it one of the most well-known and distinct neighborhoods in Newport News,” stated Acting City Manager Neil A. Morgan. “As a walkable, pedestrian friendly community with tree-lined streets, Hilton Village appeals to a variety of homeowners and elements from its design can be seen in some of our newer mixed-use developments.”

Through Great Places in America, APA recognizes unique and authentic characteristics found in three essential components of all communities — streets, neighborhoods, and public spaces. APA Great Places offer better choices for where and how people work and live every day, places that are enjoyable, safe, and desirable. Such places are defined by many characteristics, including architectural features, accessibility, functionality, and community involvement.

“**Historic Hilton Village** shows the lasting value created through well-thought-out and executed planning,” said APA Chief Executive Officer Paul Farmer, FAICP. “Because of its engaged citizens and support of city officials, the character and uniqueness of this English garden city-styled neighborhood remains intact,” he added.

Designed and planned in 1918, **Historic Hilton Village** exemplified Howard’s “garden city” concepts by separating residential, commercial and recreational uses from industrial ones. The plan for **Hilton Village** called for a self-contained, walkable community near the Newport News shipyard. With churches, elementary school, library, fire station, parks, public spaces and Warwick Boulevard as its commercial corridor, **Historic Hilton Village** reflected Howard’s garden-city planning ideas.

The neighborhood is compact with amenities and commercial areas within easy walking or bicycling distance. Warwick Boulevard includes an Art Deco performing arts theater, restaurants, an art gallery, and antique, jewelry, and gift shops. The commercial buildings are mostly row houses and duplexes that have commercial activities on the ground floors and residential units on the upper floors.

Citizens have been active so as to ensure the intent of the original plan continues to guide future growth and development. For instance, in the late 1960s residents raised objections to a proposal to narrow sidewalks on Warwick Boulevard to accommodate increased traffic. Because of citizen concerns and outcries, the proposal was withdrawn. In 1969 the city established a historic overlay district for the village, the same year the village was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Perhaps the strongest endorsement of the neighborhood's timeless plan came in 2000 when the Newport News city council approved the Port Warwick high-density, mixed-use development -- despite there being a city ordinance at the time prohibiting such developments. Cited as proof Port Warwick would succeed was the city's own mixed-use development pioneer – **Historic Hilton Village**.

**The Nine Other APA 2009 Great Neighborhoods Are:**

Bungalow Heaven, Pasadena, CA, Faubourg Marigny, New Orleans, LA, The Haymarket, Lincoln, NE, Village of Kenmore, Kenmore, NY, Downtown Fargo, Fargo, ND, Ladd's Addition, Portland, OR, Franklin Historic District, Franklin, TN, Montrose, Houston, TX, & Browne's Addition, Spokane, WA For more information about these neighborhoods, as well as lists of the 2009 APA 10 Great Streets and 10 Great Public Spaces, visit [www.planning.org/greatplaces](http://www.planning.org/greatplaces). This year's Great Places in America will be celebrated as part of APA's National Community Planning Month in October 2009; for more about the special month, visit [www.planning.org/ncpm](http://www.planning.org/ncpm). *Daily Press, Newport News, Virginia*

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**2009-10 Historic Hilton Village Inc. Neighborhood Dues**  
**Fiscal Year October 1, 2009 – September 30, 2010**

First/Last Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**DUES: \$10 per household**

**Make Checks out to HHV Inc.** Your support provides us with the funds needed to offer the variety of exciting and fun-filled Hilton Village family events throughout the year. We invite you to attend our neighborhood HHV Inc. board meetings for your suggestions and input. It's a great way to meet your neighbors, make new friends, and become an active part of one of the greatest neighborhoods in the nation. Thank You !

**LEAD BLOCK CAPTAINS: Barbara Insley (596-5019) & Gladys Lash (596-5693)**  
**BLOCK CAPTAINS: Main St.** (Whitney Farris 591-0957) **Hopkins St.** (Jan Black 596-9132 & Mary Barker 596-8620) **Post St.** (Barbara Granger 596-0377 & Mary Margaret Hamilton - 595-5044) **River Rd** (Valerie Smoot 812-1680 & Nadine Parr 591-4181) **Warwick Blvd.** (Jennifer Gambill 369-4697, Susie Sealey 595-4133 & Pat Perkinson(10200 Blk of Warwick) **Piez 200 Blk** (Diane Clear 596-3679) **Piez 300 Blk** (Kim DiSomama 595-1297) **Hurley 200 Blk** (Jane Patefield 599-3913) **Hurley 300 Blk** (Debbie Gentry 903-8265) **Palen 200 Blk** (Barbara Insley 596-5019) **Palen 300 Blk** (Virginia Crute 595-7061) **Ferguson 200 Blk** (Ann Richards 595-6912) **Ferguson 300 Blk** (Kim McKnight 926-4891)

**BLOCK CAPTAINS, THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT & TREMENDOUS DEDICATION IN DELIVERING THE VILLAGE VOICE NEWSLETTERS & COLLECTION OF DUES. WE SINCERELY APPRECIATE YOU & WOULD NEVER BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH THIS WITHOUT YOU. YOUR CARE & CONCERN FOR HHV NEIGHBORS IS ONE OF THE THINGS THAT HAS MADE HILTON VILLAGE SUCH A DESIRABLE PLACE TO LIVE. THANK YOU !!!**

# ECO-FRIENDLY (& BEAUTIFUL) GARDENING IN HHV

Submitted by Melissa Sale

At St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Hilton Village, "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof" from Psalm 24 is not just a quotation to memorize, but a call to action.

Church member, BoBo Smith designed and created eco-friendly landscaping around the church. This healthy and attractive garden has been achieved without using harmful chemicals that pollute our waterways. BoBo and St. Andrew's volunteers used leaf compost to boost soil nutrients without using synthetic fertilizers. They pull weeds by hand and avoid use of weed killers. Pine straw mulch discourages weeds and retains moisture. No pesticides are used. The result: a colorful garden on Main Street and River Road that delights the eye and calms the soul but doesn't pollute the river.

On May 30<sup>th</sup>, this garden was a featured stop in Historic Hilton Village's Pink Flamingo Garden Tour. Since Hilton Village's nearest neighbor is

the James River and ultimately the Chesapeake Bay, pesticide and fertilizer-free gardening is critical to keeping these waterways healthy during storm run-off. The Creation Care Committee viewed the garden tour as a way to increase awareness of the harmful effects yard chemicals have on storm water and eventually our rivers, streams, and bay.

To have a beautiful garden without harmful chemicals, BoBo recommends putting the right plant in the right place. A plant placed in the best soil and light conditions for its growing needs will not require chemicals to thrive.

St. Andrew's welcomes visitors to the garden to show that gardening can be a way to care for God's beautiful creation.



## Hilton Neighbors Join the Slow Food Movement

What is slow food? Well of course, it's the opposite of 'fast food'! About 30 Hilton families are eating healthy and locally grown fruits and vegetables that are provided by their membership in the Clayhill Farms CSA (Community Supported Agriculture). Edmond, Jan and Anson Morris are farmers who plant, grow and harvest over 30 vegetables, fruits, and herbs on their Suffolk farm and deliver 'shares' to subscribers (in the Beecroft parking lot) every Saturday morning. Each family's bag is filled to the brim with produce that is healthy, safe and nutritious. The program has been a win-win for both the farmers and the families who have subscribed. The farmers know they have a buyer for their crops and the subscribers receive the benefits of eating healthy foods that have been grown locally. Janice Morris, of Clayhill Farms really appreciates Hilton and says, "I'm absolutely thrilled with the residents of Hilton. They are all charming, gracious, and early for their veggies!"



If you would like to join the 'slow food movement' be on the look out for information Clayhill Farms CSA next spring or you can e-mail [clayhillfarmscsa@yahoo.com](mailto:clayhillfarmscsa@yahoo.com) or call 986-3209.

## WOMAN'S CLUB OF HILTON VILLAGE HUBS Peanuts 2009 Fundraiser

- 12 ounce tin Peanuts (salted only) - \$6.00
- 20 ounce tin Peanuts (salted or unsalted) - \$11.00
- 32 ounce tin Peanuts (salted or unsalted) - \$14.00
- 12 ounce tin Peanut Squares - \$6.00
- 12 ounce tin Chocolate Covered Peanuts - \$7.00
- 20 ounce tin Chocolate Covered Peanuts - \$12.00

Orders will be taken between now & December 1st  
Call Rebecca with your order - Phone: 244-6414

HUBS peanuts make great gifts for friends, family, neighbors, teachers, co-workers, etc.. not to mention you will probably want some for yourself.

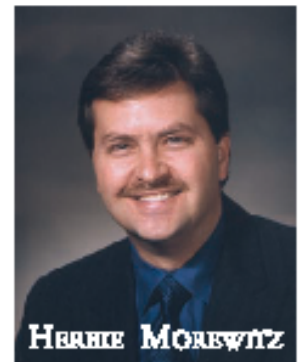
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