

## Featured Events

**January 25**

**Deadline for the Dominion Energy Scholarship Program** for African-Americans and other underrepresented minority students Click [here](#) for more information.

**January 30**

**Pull-Up for the Re-Up School Supply Distribution** event at Denbigh Community Center, 15198 Warwick Blvd. from 12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. More information on page 2.

**Ongoing**

Join the "Celebrating the People of Marshall-Ridley" movement sponsored by the Hampton Roads Community Action Program. This is a great opportunity to celebrate the good works of people in the Marshall-Ridley community. To learn more, click [here](#).



# Your Choice

A Newsletter for the Marshall-Ridley Choice Neighborhood

January | 2021 | ISSUE 49

## Housing Progress in the Marshall-Ridley Choice Neighborhood

Development plans for the first phase of the new housing in the Marshall-Ridley Choice Neighborhood are under review by the Newport News Planning Department. Plans include two multi-family buildings located on Jefferson Avenue between 27th and 29th Streets. Construction will begin in early 2021, with a projected completion date of May 2022. A contest to name the new buildings will be held in January 2021. More details about the contest will be available soon.

Planning is also underway for the second phase of new development, which will occur on the Ridley Place site. The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC), City of Newport News and Newport News Redevelopment and Housing Authority are working with the design team to develop a final concept plan for Ridley Place.

### Housing Finance

The financing package for construction of Phase One is nearly complete. The package includes low-income housing tax credits, state grants, and city funds. In December 2020, additional funding was requested from the Virginia Department of Housing & Community Development.

### Relocation

In preparation for new development on the Ridley site, residents are relocating to new housing through a phased system. A total of 217 vouchers have been issued to families. As of January 4, 2021, 156 families have secured new permanent housing.

**Phase 1:** Fifty-eight families living north of 16th Street and families relocating early due to medical issues have found new housing. Three families continue to look for housing.

**Phase 2:** Seventy-six families south of 16th Street have found new housing. Twenty-two are in the process of leasing or looking for new housing.

**Phase 3:** Twenty-two families living in the area bounded by Ivy Avenue, 16th Street and Ridley Circle have found new housing and thirty-seven are in the process of leasing or looking for housing.

The remaining vouchers have been awarded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and will be issued over the coming weeks.

If you are a Ridley resident in need of relocation assistance, please call Starr Lane at 757-928-6076.





## Contact Us

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[facebook.com/newportnewschoice](https://www.facebook.com/newportnewschoice)

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757-928-2620

# Updates and Opportunities

## Councilman Marcellus L. Harris III Hosting Re-Up School Supply Drive and Distribution

As students start the second half of the school year, Newport News Councilman Harris wants to make sure they have the supplies they need to finish successfully. Once again, he is teaming up with Newport News School Board Member Marvin Harris and the Kids Wish Foundation to host a Re-Up School Supply Distribution. Newport News students are invited to a drive-thru event on **Saturday, January 30 from noon until 2 p.m.** at the Denbigh Community Center (15198 Warwick Boulevard). Registration is not required and supplies are first-come, first-served.

The community is asked to support this important event by donating new school items until January 23. This year's list looks much different, as students continue to learn virtually during the pandemic. The items most needed included headphones, Chromebook cases/carriers, Kleenex, crayons, paper, pencils, masks and sanitizer. Drop items off at the City On My Chest store at Patrick Henry Mall (12300 Jefferson Avenue).

For more information on the collection or distribution events, call 757-274-1708.

### A New Website Exclusively for Ridley Residents



Last month, the Hampton Roads Community Action Program (HRCAP) launched a new website dedicated to keeping current and prior Ridley Place residents informed and empowered during the transformation at Ridley Place.

The website, [Ridley411.com](https://www.Ridley411.com), was developed by HRCAP in partnership with a team of Community Champions who live, work, own property or operate a business in the Ridley Place vicinity. [Ridley411.com](https://www.Ridley411.com) offers a variety of information and resources to assist with the personal and community transformation.

To learn more about the services available to Ridley residents through HRCAP, contact Dr. Landis Faulcon at [landis.faulcon@hrcapinc.org](mailto:landis.faulcon@hrcapinc.org).

### Ridley Place Residents Stay Connected through a Chat Line

**Ridley Live** is a chat line created by the Hampton Roads Community Action Program (HRCAP) just for former and current Ridley Place residents! HRCAP staff and special guests are available to answer questions and address concerns.

Each week, Monday through Thursday, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., join Community Engagement Program Navigator, Mayah Bell by calling toll free: 1-844-992-4726. When prompted, enter access code: 129 238 4512.

### Support for Aspiring Entrepreneurs

Do you have a dream of starting your own business but don't know where to begin? The Newport News Economic Development Authority (EDA) offers the Launch & Grow Roadmap which provides tips, checklists, links to resources, and more to start a business in the City of Newport News. To learn more, click [here](#).

