

# Featured Events

## Every Monday -Thursday

### Free GED Classes

Mondays & Wednesdays 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. or Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at Discovery STEM Academy, 12 Chestnut Avenue.

## Saturdays, Jan. 11- 25

### Free Hip-Hop Classes

Saturdays, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., Jan. 11 - Jan. 25 at the Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center, 2410 Wickham Avenue.

## Thursday, Jan. 16

Ridley Tenant Council, 4:00 p.m., Family Investment Center, 600-C Ridley Circle.



# Your Choice

A Newsletter for the Marshall-Ridley Choice Neighborhood

JANUARY | 2020 | ISSUE 37

## Continued Transformation in the New Year

### Construction at 2506 Jefferson Avenue

In early November, the Economic Development Authority [EDA] issued a notice to proceed to Ritchie-Curbow Construction Company, Inc. for rehabilitation of 2506 Jefferson Avenue. 2506 Jefferson Avenue is the future location of the co-working space identified as a community need in the Transformation Plan for the Marshall-Ridley Choice Neighborhood.



*Image above: Future site of the co-working space. This space will primarily serve those living in the Southeast Community; however, it will be open to all Newport News residents.*

### Purpose of the Co-working Space

When complete, the co-working space will provide low-cost, shared office space and business support services in the Southeast Community to assist small and new businesses starting in the neighborhood. Small businesses and entrepreneurs can obtain technical assistance, attend business management workshops and receive expert advice on various topics including: business planning, industry research, accounting and capital sources.

### Funding & Schedule for the Project

The \$1.8 million rehabilitation project is supported by a \$480,000 Industrial Revitalization Fund Grant from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development [DHCD]. Ritchie-Curbow is preparing the building for the rehabilitation work and securing necessary approvals, with more visible work scheduled to begin in January. The completion of the project is anticipated in the Summer of 2020.

### Co-working Space Operation

The co-working space will be operated by the EDA and a third party entity will be hired to manage the site. Programming and marketing will be provided by various entities.





## Contact Us

Find us on social media or sign up to receive this newsletter by email.

-  [Instagram.com/newportnewschoice](https://www.instagram.com/newportnewschoice)
-  [facebook.com/newportnewschoice](https://www.facebook.com/newportnewschoice)
-  [newportnewschoice@nnva.gov](mailto:newportnewschoice@nnva.gov)
-  757-926-8761

# Community Bulletin Board

## New Year, New Habits!

Tips for kick-starting your goals:

- **Set positive goals** and ensure they are SMART - Specific Measurable Achievable Relevant and Timely.
- **Write down goals** and set small milestones - as reminders that progress is being made.
- **Attend free or low cost classes** being offered throughout the Southeast community and beyond for all ages. The classes could assist with accomplishing your goals.
- **Use this newsletter**, social media, fellow neighbors, and other resources to learn about educational opportunities.
- **Be kind to yourself** and others along the way. Change does not happen overnight but small steps towards a goal leads to victory.
- **Ask for help**, we are a community - so we should look out for one another.

## Ridley Tenant Council

Residents are invited to the Tenant Council Meeting Thursday, Jan. 16, 4:00 p.m. at the Family Investment Center, 600-C Ridley Circle. Join your fellow neighbors to discuss the neighborhood and any upcoming events.

## Free GED Classes

Mondays & Wednesdays 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. or Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at Discovery STEM Academy, 12 Chestnut Avenue. Call 928-6838, ext. 38900 or email [jessica.morris@nn.k12.va.us](mailto:jessica.morris@nn.k12.va.us).

## Art Explorers

Thursdays, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Jan. 9 - Feb. 27 at Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center, 2410 Wickham Avenue. Ages 1+ and their guardians are invited to join an art class. Fee is \$5, covers all eight classes. For more information call, 247-8950.

## Free Hip-Hop Dance Class

Saturdays, 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m., Jan. 11 - Jan. 25 at the Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center, 2410 Wickham Avenue. Ages 8 and up are invited to have fun and learn from Tony Truong the art of hip-hop dancing. RSVP is encouraged, at eventbrite, [bit.ly/hip-hopdance](https://bit.ly/hip-hopdance).

## Business Classes for Kids

Saturdays, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., Feb. 8 - 29 at Downing-Gross Cultural Arts Center, 2410 Wickham Avenue. Ages 6-12 are invited to join a business class. Fee is \$12.50 per class or \$45 for all four classes. For more information call, 247-8950 or [bit.ly/kids-business](https://bit.ly/kids-business).



# Community Snapshots



Images from left to right: Scenes from the play "Nightmare Before Frozen" at the annual Holiday Frost event. The ribbon cutting for the McCallum family home dedication.