

Business and Civic League News

Those oldies truly are goodies!

BY PAIGE POLLARD, COMMONWEALTH PRESERVATION GROUP

Ghent Business Association Spotlight

Fifty years ago, EVMS' founders made a promise to create a healthier Hampton Roads. They established a school that has attracted healthcare professionals to the region and trained a workforce ready to meet our community's diverse needs. As Hampton Roads grows, so does EVMS' commitment to our shared future. [Learn more at evms.edu/promise.](http://evms.edu/promise)

In recent years, flooding has made national and local headlines as the threat to coastal communities increases. Those of us who love historic buildings value their charm – but also their intrinsic durability and resilience. We know from years of work with historic materials that they are built to last. After more than 10 years of helping historic property owners address moisture damage informally, we decided it was time to formalize our work and prove the case that historic buildings (and the traditional materials that they are built from) are resilient – and a better bet in a flood.

Building Resilient Solutions, LLC (BRS) is a joint venture of Museum Resources Construction & Millwork (MRCM) and Commonwealth Preservation Group (CPG). BRS focuses on addressing the growing number of existing (historic) buildings that are vulnerable to damage from recurrent flooding. Our approach is to use empirical data to identify the cause and effect of moisture damage resulting from precipitation and flood events. We design resiliency retrofit solutions that address your site-specific building and context conditions and are appropriate for the sustainability of the historic building.

We have specialized equipment to monitor on-site conditions on both the interior and exterior of the building, and research the development history of the property and the building. Through data analysis, we can diagnose the problem, provide treatment recommendations, and design an in-situ retrofit solution that we know works— because we've tested the efficacy in our controlled laboratory. We prepare a comprehensive report for our clients, which can be used to hire contractors and provide to prospective buyers if selling your property, which documents the problem and how it can be best addressed.

An inaugural RISE Coastal Community Challenge Grant Resilience Innovation Fund winner in May 2019, BRS used their Resilience Innovation Fund grant award to purchase its monitoring equipment and to construct its dedicated building materials flood testing laboratory equipped with a flood test chamber in Downtown Suffolk, Virginia—the first of its kind in the United States.



Ghent Neighborhood League

ghentneighborhoodleague.org

Meets the third Wednesday of every month. 2023 meetings are held at Ohef Sholom Temple, 530 Raleigh Avenue.

Next meeting: May 17th

Ghent Business Association

ghentnorfolk.org

Meets the first Thursday of every month at 8:30 a.m. at Ohef Sholom Temple, 530 Raleigh Ave.

Next meeting: May 4th

West Ghent Civic League

Meetings are on the third Thursday of the month at St. Andrews Episcopal Church.

Meetings and events: Facebook or westghentcivicleague.org/

Email: wgcfeedback@gmail.com

Next Meeting: May 18th

Chelsea Business Association

Check our Facebook page for meeting location and date:

facebook.com/ChelseaBusinessDistrict.