



# NEWS RELEASE

## CITY OF NEWPORT NEWS

2400 Washington Avenue, Newport News, Virginia 23607 • (757) 926-8501 • fax (757) 926-3514  
www.nngov.com • email: [intergov@nngov.com](mailto:intergov@nngov.com)

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
November 18, 2008

Media Contacts:  
Kim Lee, Coordinator of Media Relations  
(757) 926-3685, (757) 508-2782 – cell  
[city@nngov.com](mailto:city@nngov.com)  
Carol U. Meredith, Manager of Financial Services  
(757) 926-8428  
[cmeredith@nngov.com](mailto:cmeredith@nngov.com)

### **DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT HONORED BY LOCAL CIVIC GROUP**

*Florence G. Kingston Named "Business and Professional Person of the Year 2008"  
by the Warwick Ruritan Club*

**Newport News, Va., November 6, 2008** - The Warwick Ruritan Club named Florence G. Kingston, Director of Development of the City of Newport News, as "Business and Professional Person of the Year 2008." The award was presented at a recent City Council meeting. Each year, the local organization honors an individual who has made a positive impact on the quality of life in Newport News.

John Lash, Past President of the Warwick Ruritans, noted that despite job losses and business failures around the country, Newport News is bucking the trend and leading the way in economic development initiatives. Lash cited the Governor's recent announcements of the Canon Virginia expansion and the Areva/Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding joint venture, expected to bring over \$1 billion dollars in private investment and over 1,500 jobs to the City.

“One person, along with her very capable staff, has been intricately involved in the process of bringing this economic prosperity to Newport News which will help our city to continue to grow and diversify. Her efforts will help shape our community and foster a better quality of life for generations to come.”

In addition to being the City’s Director of Development, Kingston is also the Secretary/Treasurer of the Newport News Economic/Industrial Development Authority. She is a graduate of the University of Virginia and has worked in economic development for 28 years.

Ruritan National is an organization that has been working to build better communities since 1928. The Ruritans are guided by the values of Fellowship, Goodwill and Community Service. The local affiliate, Warwick Ruritan, was established in Newport News in 1949.

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