



WARDS CORNER CIVIC LEAGUE

CROSSROADS

Serving: Colony Point, Hariton Gardens, Merridale,
Pinehurst, Restmere, Rose Gardens, Sussex of Norfolk,
Virginia Gardens and Wexford Terrace

December, 2006

Web site www.Wardscorner.com

CIVIC LEAGUE MEETING MONDAY

December 18, 2006

7:00 PM

NORFOLK FITNESS and WELLNESS
CENTER

Agenda

Ted Daughtrey-Principal, Granby High
School

Election of Officers

Holiday Party

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jim English jenglish@odu.edu

Jim has the flu, and was not able to send a message this month.

Adopt-A-Spot Clean-up

Did you happen to drive down West Little Creek Road over the weekend of December 2 and notice how the corner of Ruthven and Little Creek sparkled? Ray Duron, along with several volunteers (Betty Duron, Linda Spear, and Barb Ross) picked up the litter at the corner and surrounding area. They collected eleven bags of trash, weighing 220 pounds!! (It's amazing what people will toss from their cars!) Ray is always looking for volunteers to help, and you'll be notified in the newsletter of the next date. Even if you can't attend this organized clean-up, it helps our neighborhood look its best if you clean the debris around your own home. And, this is the time of year when our pines and other trees are dropping their needles and leaves, making a slippery carpet on the sidewalks. Please remember that, as a homeowner, it is your responsibility to keep the sidewalks around your home clean and free from things that others could trip over or slide on.

HOLIDAY PARTY

Don't forget our Holiday Party at the League meeting this month. After our speaker and election of officers, we'll have some drinks and snacks. If you have a favorite holiday goodie, please bring it to share. But, join us, regardless.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND REMINDERS

WCCL is again sponsoring our Holiday Home Decoration Contest. Have your lights on by 6 PM the evening of December 17 when the judges will be touring the neighborhoods. Prizes (two movie passes for each category) will be awarded at our meeting on the 18th. Categories include Most Traditional, Most Whimsical, Best Overall and Honorable Mention.

January and February meetings have been moved one week because of the Monday holiday on our usual meeting day. January's meeting is on the 22nd and February's meeting will be on the 26th.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

It's the end of the year, and time to elect the officers for the WCCL. The current board members have agreed to run again for next year, and nominations will be taken from the floor, with the nominee's approval.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

Are you thinking of your resolutions for the new year yet? Don't forget to include joining your Civic League and becoming an active member. Civic League dues (\$5/member) are payable in January.

Important Phone Numbers

Police Emergency	911
Police Non-Emergency	441-5610
Pace Officer	664-6921
Police Red Sector	664-6914
Code Enforcement	664-6532
Environmental Health	683-2712
Sewer Backup	823-1000
Waste Management (Call here for large pickups)	441-5813
Norfolk Cares Call Center (Don't know what office to call on the problem?)	664-6510

HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR SECRETARY'S MINUTES

Wards Corner Civic League members met on Monday, November 20, 2006 in the Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center at 7PM. After the Pledge of Allegiance, President Jim English stated that our new flag, recently flown at the Naval Base in Iceland, was donated by our member, Patrick O'Hear. Thank you.

Our PACE representative, Officer Roger Hungerford, gave the following report:

- 1) continuing bike and foot patrols in the shopping areas
- 2) a seminar was conducted for the business owners and employees educating in crime prevention (robbery and burglary)
- 3) our Red Sector has the lowest crime stats in the city
- 4) investigated 1 garage break-in, 1 stolen auto, 4 vehicle break-ins, 2 speeding incidents in 500 block of Burleigh Ave.
- 5) stop sign inquiries in locations of Maycox and Burleigh Aves.
- 6) addressed questions of truancy at Granby High School
- 7) gave tips on shopping safety
- 8) heard concerns of loud car mufflers and school bus speeding.

Marie Arnt, Communications Relations Manager of HRT (Hampton Roads Transit), a Roosevelt Gardens Civic League member and a past President of Norfolk Federation of Civic Leagues was our guest speaker. Marie stated that light rail transit project (LRT) has been a work in progress since 1995. It is proposed to extend 7.4 miles from EVMS through downtown Norfolk to Newtown Road. Eleven station stops will be constructed and a combination of existing railroad corridor and city streets would impact a small number of properties (example-Kirn Library). Approximately 6,000-12,000 riders per day are anticipated. Total cost is estimated at \$235.3 million with half paid with federal funds and the rest from state and local funds. Construction begins in 2007 and it should be operational late 2009. Visit website www.hrtransit.org.

Jim English reported:

- 1) the trailer park near Southern Shopping Center had been sold to a developer. Nusbaum realtors plan 120 unit gated community apartments with 1-3 bedrooms, \$600-900 rental fees.
- 2) a public hearing in January will address the recent blight study and the conservation areas of E. Little Creek Road (and Texas Streets)
- 3) Public Works has replaced the damaged guy wire at North Shore playground. New landscaping and play equipment is placed in the city budget for the playground
- 4) Linda Transeau, a WCCL member, and member of the Fitness and Wellness Center Board, reports new cardio equipment has been obtained at the Wellness Center. There are 7000 members and fees will be increasing.
- 5) new green neighborhood signs (Colony Point, Restmere, Pinehurst, and Rose Gardens) are visible.
- 6) flag poles are erected at Granby High School awaiting lighting and flags.

- 7) Farm Fresh will be asked to Adopt A Spot for litter pickup.
- 8) Concerns of citizens should be phoned into Norfolk Cares 664-6510 (parking on grass, trash, potholes, U-turn at Post office, etc).

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joan Griffey, Secretary

Neighborhood Signs

Have you noticed the new signs highlighting each subdivision of the Wards Corner area? They are being installed by the City, and you can obtain more information from the city website: http://www.norfolk.gov/neighborhoods/services/neighborhood_sign_update.asp. Several paragraphs from the site that provide some background are included below:

The City of Norfolk is comprised of many diverse neighborhoods, neighborhoods as old as the city itself; neighborhoods experiencing a rebirth of their heritage; neighborhoods in the beginning stages of establishing their heritage. Regardless of age or heritage, each of the City's neighborhoods is a special place to their residents, places to be treasured and nurtured. The ability of each resident to identify with their neighborhood contributes to a sense of neighborhood pride.

Presently, many of the City's neighborhoods are recognized by a variety of sign designs and colors while many neighborhoods have no signage at all. To ensure that all its neighborhoods are recognized, the City has approved a program for the fabrication and installation of new neighborhood identification signs. To guarantee a uniform appearance throughout the city, a single neighborhood identification sign design featuring the City's mermaid logo has been selected.

While the appearance of each neighborhood identification sign will be uniform throughout the city, there is an opportunity to personalize the area around each sign through landscaping. If landscaping is installed, the planting material must be selected from the "[Sign Landscaping for Sun](#)" or "[Sign Landscaping for Shade](#)" plant lists prepared by the City's Department of Recreation and Open Space. The purchase, installation, and maintenance of any landscaping will be the responsibility of the appropriate civic league.

Our League would like to begin planting around the signs in the spring. If you are interested in helping, please notify Joan Griffey.

WCCL Website

Don't forget to check our Website periodically. Martin Thomas, Jr. keeps it updated with many interesting items.

Keep Our Corner Clean Day

The Wards Corner Litter Prevention Team will be launching a new awareness campaign as part of several initiatives to reduce littering in the Wards Corner area. "Keep Our Corner Clean" is the slogan selected by the Team and approved by the Wards Corner Business Association to help promote general awareness and engage shoppers, employees, and property owners in the effort to put litter in its place and take steps to change practices and behaviors that result in litter.

> To help launch this campaign, on Friday, December 15th, from 3:30 pm to 5:30 pm, 20 students from YADAPP, a volunteer club from Granby High School, will be passing out car litter bags, holiday shopping bags and merchant coupons to patrons that visit Wards Corner stores and offices. Their message will be positive and proactive, encouraging folks to remember to "Keep Our Corner Clean". Staff from Keep Norfolk Beautiful (KNB) will train the volunteers and be supervising along with YADAPP Leaders. The Students will be wearing bright green "Clean Team" jackets and will be spread out in all four corners of the District. Additionally, KNB staff will be talking with merchants and employees inviting them to use the new slogan and presenting them with Dumpster and Trash Can Management Tip Sheets.

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WCCL Board of Directors

President	Jim English	423-7154
1 st VP/ Membership	Linda Spear	402-8583
2 nd VP/ Newsletter Distribution	Lee Goldman	287-1619
Secretary	Joan Griffey	440-9508
Treasurer	Ray Duron	423-4337
Web Master	Martin Thomas, Jr.	618-6468

Newsletter ideas/comments-Barbara Ross
(Bookworms@WHRO.Net or 489-1024)

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balance			<u>\$1347.87</u>
+ funds received	\$115.00		
-funds disbursed		\$91.40	
Ending Balance			<u>\$1371.47</u>

2006 In Review

We don't often think of the accomplishments of the past year as we rush through our busy lives, but here are a few things that your civic league has done in 2006:

- worked with other leagues to support the replacement of the neighborhood signs
- provided knowledgeable, informative speakers on varied topics at monthly meetings
- encouraged neighborhood pride and beautification with regular litter pick-up at our Adopt-a-Spot corner
- lobbied for updates to the North Shore playground, resulting in \$20,000 being placed in the city budget for equipment and landscaping changes in 2007
- formulated, printed, and distributed about 951 newsletters to the homes in our area each month (except July and August)
- developed and supports our own Website

And you can be a part of this, too, by attending our meetings, supporting our activities, and joining for only \$5. What a deal!! One hundred forty eight of your neighbors already have!

WCCL MEMBERSHIP

Annual dues are \$5.00. Our dues' year runs from January 1 through December 31. If you are a continuing member and you have not renewed your membership for 2007, please submit your payment at a meeting or mail to the Treasurer, Ray Duron, at 530 Sterling Street, 23505. If you haven't joined yet, please consider doing so now.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

E-mail _____