



WARDS CORNER CIVIC LEAGUE

CROSSROADS

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

January, 2007 Web site www.Wardscorner.com

CIVIC LEAGUE MEETING MONDAY

January 22, 2007

7:00 PM

NORFOLK FITNESS and WELLNESS
CENTER

Agenda

CARRIE CHASE-ORGANIZE YOUR LIFE
CHAOS TO CALM

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jim English jenglish@odu.edu

I have missed writing my monthly message for the past two months due to a variety of personal and family health issues. They hopefully are behind us and conditions are improving. I was unable to send my Holiday Greetings to all this year so this is a belated greeting and wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year. As always, it was a time of great anticipation, reflection and joy as all of us celebrated our respective traditions and religions. It was and is also a time that we need to reflect on those in our community, city, nation and world who may not be celebrating a joyful season and reach out to them when and if we can do so. Helping those that are in need or are shut-in is perhaps the best gift we can continually give them. Thinking of those fighting a war in the far away Middle East and helping or assisting their families if needed is the best way we as neighbors can support them. Let us never forget that there are those folks out there who may be living on the edge from payday to payday and may need our assistance. They need our thoughts and prayers. A simple smile, hello or can I help you goes a long way to show them that someone cares.

There is always good news on the horizon for our area. The new Riverside Terrace Condominiums (a 294-unit condominium unit on Newport Avenue) will be under construction soon this upcoming year by the Collins Group. Also expect to see the Grantham road condominium project begin early this year at the site of the former church on Grantham and Restmere Roads. The trailer park on East Little Creek Road has been sold and we should see its demolition soon and the site developed by Nausbaum Development Company into a middle-income gated apartment complex. Also in the good news category, the blight study in the Denby Park/Monticello Village/ Oakdale Farms area has been completed. Recommendations for development of the area will

be presented to City Council and the Planning Commission soon. It is anticipated that the entire study area will become a Conservation District for redevelopment. Look for public presentations regarding this early this year - perhaps in January or February. We will inform you about these when we know the dates. This is an important next step in our comprehensive planning approach. Finally, the Super WalMart is expected to open this month. Expect to see more business development around this property to follow. The Wellness Center continues to be a jewel in our back yard with over 7000 members to date and extended hours of operation. Have you joined!?

At our December meeting we heard a presentation about the Norfolk Light Rail Transit Project. The Norfolk Light Rail Transit is a \$230 million project proposed to extend 7.4 miles within the city of Norfolk from the Eastern Virginia Medical Center through downtown Norfolk along the I-264 corridor to Newtown Road. The project sponsor is Hampton Roads Transit (HRT), the region's transit provider headquartered in Hampton, VA. Eleven stations will be constructed along the alignment with four park and ride locations that provide access to the system in major areas such as Norfolk State University, Harbor Park, City Hall, MacArthur Center, Tidewater Community College (Norfolk Campus) and the Sentara Norfolk General Hospital. The system would use a combination of city streets and the existing rail corridor purchased from Norfolk Southern; it will carry approximately 11,500 people per day. About 56% of the project capital costs are expected to be paid with federal funds. The remainder of the \$230 million would be paid through state and local funding. HRT expects the project to advance to the Final Design phase in 2006, begin construction in 2007, and be operational in late 2009. Hampton Roads Transit believes that Norfolk Light Rail is the beginning of what will eventually become a regional light rail system in Hampton Roads. There is already federal authorization for Preliminary Engineering of an extension to Naval Station Norfolk. For more information and a map of the route, please go to www.GoHRT.com.

In December, Ted Daughtrey, Principal of Granby High School discussed the growing concern we all have with truancy in our area. This is a complicated issue and there are no easy answers or solutions. Bottom line, truancy is up all over the city, state and nation, just as bad behavior is up among a sector of this aged group. Less than 10 % of the student population is creating 95% of the problems. Gangs and gang wannabees are in large part the problem. Four gangs have been identified in Norfolk and they are in our schools, including Granby High School. These gangs go by such names as the Bloods, Crips, Brown Pride and Latin Kings. So what do we do? If we see students out of school during the day DO NOT APPROACH them. Instead call the police (441-5610 or 911) or Granby High School (451-4110 or 451-4122).

They will respond. The police every day regularly pick up and return to school many students who are truant. I hope to have the Police Gang Squad unit speak at our meeting in the near future.

Finally please note that our meeting dates for January and February have changed due to holidays on our regular meeting day. The January meeting will be on January 22nd at 7PM and the February meeting will be the 26th at 7PM. Both meetings will be at the Wellness Center.

Thanks for allowing us to continue to serve you as officers of the Wards Corner Civic League. We will continue to do our best. Thanks, Jim English

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

Did one of your New Year's resolutions include becoming organized and eliminating some of the piles in your closets and cupboards?

Does the scenario below sound too familiar to you?

Did you pile 'stuff' from your counter tops and desk into the decoration boxes so that you could 'clean up' for the holidays? Now that you are putting decorations away, what are you going to do with that 'stuff'?

Are you drowning in this paperless society? You aren't alone.

Are you ready to get organized and create greater efficiency in your life?

Part liberator, part cheerleader and part detective--Carrie Chase will share techniques on how to sort through all those items in your piles of clutter and help you move from Chaos to Calm.

At our next Civic League meeting-January 22, 2007.

Another resolution for the new year- join your Civic League and become an active member. Civic League dues (\$5/member) are payable now.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR SECRETARY'S MINUTES

-WCCL met on Monday, December 18, 2006 in Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center. President, Jim English, led the Pledge of Allegiance. Ray Duron, Treasurer, is credited with obtaining our new flag standard (donated flag flown over Iceland Naval Base). Contributions of party foods came from members and our league to celebrate the upcoming holidays.

-Our invited speaker, Principal Ted Daughtrey of Granby High School, addressed the truancy problem that some neighbors are observing. Ted is in his 5th year as Principal of 2300 students. There is need for more classes available to occupy student time at school. He explained the class schedule, number of credits required for graduation, parent permission to leave premises, study halls, work and athletic commitments, discipline, gang problems, Saturday School, truant parent notification, dismissal time and Juvenile Court for offenders. Parents are required to accompany their teen to Court with a

no nonsense judge. This year seems to be the worst for bad behavior. There needs to be a change of culture. Phone Dr. Jones (School Board) to request more security. Some good happenings at Granby High School are a Godspell performance which raised \$3000 for a teacher who experienced a home fire, coffeehouse/poetry readings, YADA volunteer group assisted Wards Corner merchants with "Spooktacular" Halloween event and with "Keep the Corner Clean" program for anti-littering awards and awareness in WC Business district.

-PACE Officer Jackson stated that discipline starts at home. Truancy problems begin when students leave for lunch. He relies on one resource official. Gang members are "wannabees", want peer recognition and use intimidation as a threat. They may be recognized by their dress and by graffiti. Panhandling (a misdemeanor) questions were asked. Vendors in the WC medians must have a permit. Officer Jackson will introduce his new partner, Bev Hubbard in January.

-Neither Taskforce nor Partnership will meet this month. All are invited to these meetings.

-Wal-Mart (Southern Shopping Center) may open by January 15.

-One way traffic will begin at Grantham Ave. and Sheryl Dr. as construction begins on the new condo development (at site of church).

-No U Turn sign (median at Post Office) will be investigated.

-Per civic league request, flagpoles are installed at Granby High median, awaiting colorful flags.

-Winners of the holiday decoration contest are Most Traditional, 7401 Colony Point Road; Best overall, 204 Burleigh Ave; and Most whimsical, 312 Bradford Ave. Runners up were 7718 Nesbitt Rd and 400 Burleigh Ave. Prizes were presented.

-Election of Officers for 2007-2008 ... Elected by acclamation were President Jim English, First Vice President/Membership, Linda Spear, Second Vice President/Newsletter Distribution Lee Goldman, Treasurer Ray Duron, and Secretary Joan Griffey. Kudos to additional Board members, Barbara Ross, Newsletter Editor and Martin Thomas, Jr., Webmaster.

-Landscaping beneath the new green neighborhood signs will pose opportunities for a green thumb member or garden club interest. Ideas to generate monies for this project will be advanced. Contact a board member if you would like to help.

-Stop signs are requested for 200-300 block of Burleigh and Maycox intersections.

The meeting was adjourned to enjoy fellowship and refreshments.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joan Griffey, Secretary

WCCL Website

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

MEETING BEHAVIOR

As a member of an audience, what is considered proper behavior? Consider these basic do's and don'ts suggested by Didi Lorillard at www.newportmanners.com.

- Don't be late because it is disruptive. Arrive early to get a good seat.
- Take off your hat and coat before entering the room and fold your coat over your lap after you're seated, or hang your jacket on the back of your chair.
- Keep your briefcase under or next to your chair so that nobody stumbles over it trying to make their way out to the aisle.
- Do not chew gum or tobacco, eat food, or drink beverages other than water.
- Listen carefully and quietly before you raise your hand to speak because the issue might have been covered while you were talking to a seat mate.
- When your request to speak is acknowledged, state your name, address, and, if relevant, your connection or expertise in the matter at hand. You address the audience and/or the people on the dais with, "Ladies and gentleman....."
- Do not interrupt anyone else while they are speaking and if you are interrupted, be patient.
- Before criticizing anyone or anything, make sure that you know what you're talking about.
- Most of the time you will find that you can narrow whatever you are trying to say down to three points, so have three sentences rehearsed so that no matter what happens, you get your three points across in about three minutes.
- Thank the chair and the ladies and gentlemen in the audience for their attention and for letting you speak.
- After returning to your seat, wait until there is a break between speakers before exiting the auditorium.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Current board members were elected to serve in their positions for the next year by unanimous vote at the December meeting.

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			\$1371.47
+ funds received	\$175.00		
-funds disbursed		\$332.37	
Ending Balance			\$1214.10

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 _____

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

UPCOMING EVENTS AND REMINDERS

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.