

CIVIC LEAGUE MEETING

NORFOLK FITNESS and WELLNESS CENTER

**MONDAY
June 17, 2013
6:45 PM**

**Program
Representatives from Suburban
Shopping Center**

Andy Protogyrou, City Councilman

**Update on Pump Station,
Neighborhood Sewer Repairs**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Neighbors,

I am writing this message to you on Sunday morning June 1st. A Police Officer Sergeant friend of mine has just stopped by my house to advise me that a robbery had just taken place in the area of Restmere and W. Little Creek Road. If you saw about eight police units and an equal number of officers in that area at that time, they were looking for the suspect. Hopefully that individual will be apprehended soon. This is a reminder that we should be ever vigilant to what is going on around us and to keep all of our doors locked at all times. If you don't have one, consider getting a home security system. It's worth it. Another neighborhood alert option that we are publishing and encouraging all of you to sign up for is an email listserv. This notification system will allow you to send a message to all of those members on the listserv if you have an alert that you wish to put out to everyone. You can sign up for it by going to www.wardscorner.com and clicking on the WCCL Listserv link on the right hand column of the webpage. From there, simply follow the directions to sign up. The more folks we have on the listserv, the more we can get a message out to all in a timely manner. This system was encouraged by our Police Officers.

As summer is just around the corner and schools will be out, hopefully we will all enjoy some vacation time. We also hope that this summer's weather will be great and we will once again be spared any major hurricanes as like last year. However, make sure you are prepared just in case. Over the summer, please continue to enjoy the Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center. There are over 7000 members now. If you are not a member, please consider joining and taking advantage of this great facility in our back yard.

As I drive through Wards Corner every day, I am excited to see that the building is coming out of the ground on the Suburban Park Shopping Center. By September it should be completely up and we will have a good idea what the property will look like. To date the following have signed leases for that property:

- Harris Teeter
- Towne Bank
- Sleepy's Mattress
- Albano Cleaners
- Subway

- Starbucks
- MO's Southwest Grill

In addition, you probably noticed that the parking lot has been resurfaced at the Midtown Shopping Center property, giving it a fresh look. We also know that a Dollar General is moving into where the #1 Chinese Buffet was in the Wards Corner Shopping Center. Also the new sewer pump station should be finished and operational this summer. Our efforts are really starting to pay off in the Business District. But let's not forget that continued focus and efforts are needed in the Denby Park area which still needs much attention and funding to uplift that neighborhood.

Since our June meeting is the last meeting until September, it also means that this is the last newsletter until then as well. We will not have a meeting in July and August unless it is warranted.

I wish to once again thank Barbara Ross for her dedicated service as our newsletter editor. She has done an excellent job of preparing the newsletter each month. This takes a significant amount of time to complete and Barbara's newsletters are informative and always on time. Barbara, we thank you for your service and look forward to your newsletters again in the fall. Enjoy your two months of newsletter free time. Speaking of keeping us informed, a hearty thanks goes to Martin Thomas Jr. for keeping our website www.wardscorner.com as well as www.wardscornernow.com up to date and informative. We also thank Martin for the good work he is doing on the Planning Commission for our area and the city. Also a special thanks to Joan Griffey and Ray Duron for keeping the records of our meetings and ensuring that our finances are in order. Joan, also thank you for your continued efforts as Chair of the Beautification Committee with the Greater Wards Corner Task Force. Joan is now also the Secretary of the Norfolk Federation of Civic Leagues. A thank you also goes to our 2nd VP Sue Classick for her tireless efforts in organizing the delivery of our newsletters each month with our many newsletter carriers. Thanks also to our many newsletter carriers for their time in delivering our newsletters to you. This also is no small task. It is yet another valuable service that we are providing to all of the residents of the Wards Corner Civic League area residents. It is also the envy of many of the civic leagues in the Greater Wards Corner area as well as citywide. Thanks also to Betty and Ray Duron for organizing and conducting our adopt-a-spot cleanups over the last several years. Thanks also to the members of our civic league who help in each of these cleanups. Thank you all for your service.

Finally, I extend a very grateful thanks to all of our paid members for your continuing support and attendance at our monthly meetings. Your presence and input at our meetings is much appreciated. Please tell your neighbors to join us in attendance and membership as more numbers mean a bigger voice at city hall.

One thing is for sure. The dedication and commitment of the membership of the Greater Wards Task Force and area Civic Leagues (including and especially ours) will continue the push with our city elected officials and senior city management staff to help us correct and develop the area and rid it of the dysfunctional and criminal element that resides here. We will not be taking the summer off but will continue our fight. Please join us in that fight as numbers speak to elected officials.

Please have a safe, relaxing and enjoyable summer. We hope to see you again in June and then in the fall at our September meeting.

Thanks,
Jim

Wards Corner Civic League Minutes

May 20, 2012

Wards Corner Civic League met on Monday, May 20, 2013 in NFW Center at 6:45PM. Vice President Martin Thomas, Jr. welcomed guests, members and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Attendance: 27.

Invited speakers were VA Constitutional Officer Candidates 1) Commissioner of the Revenue: Evans Posten and Sharon McDonald, 2) Treasurer Anthony Burfoot, unopposed, 3) Sheriff Bob McCabe and 4) Commonwealth Attorney Gregory Underwood. Each guest was given time to expound their experience and qualifications for the position they wished to acquire. Commissioner of the Revenue is the chief tax assessing officer in the city. He/She assesses taxes on businesses and individuals in real estate, personal property, business licenses, consumer utility, machinery and tool, merchant's capital, local excise (meals, lodging, and cigarette) and special tax relief and land usage programs. They also assist with state income tax returns and DMV services. Presently, there are 46 employees with 32 funded by the State.

The Treasurer is the chief financial officer for the locality, collecting taxes on real estate, personal property and licenses, water, sewage and storm water charges, permit fees, state income taxes, court, sheriff and clerk fees. He manages the investment of local funds and maintains records of local finances.

The Sheriff provides all law enforcement services, investigating crimes, pursuing offenders and

making arrests. He maintains local jail housing 1385 inmates (833 capacity). He provides security in the local courthouse, serves legal papers, summons jurors and witnesses.

Commonwealth Attorney represents the people in prosecuting criminal cases such as felonies, murder, rape, and robbery, some misdemeanors (domestic violence, DUIs) traffic offenses and crimes against the State. Presently, there is 80 staff of which 38 are attorneys.

Our resource officer, Odell Davis, reported 1 robbery (Bradford), 2 residential burglaries (WLC Road), 2 larcenies, 4 vandalisms. He reiterated that if something seems suspicious call 911.

Rick Dempsey, City Sewer Project Manager, stated that new resurfaced paved streets are 99% finished, the pump station is due for a July finish with a new entrance to the Fitness Center, planning for 500-600 block North Shore Rd from Restmere to Ruthven Rd is the next phase for Fall.

VP Martin stated that we can sign up via Email for notifications and alerts in the neighborhood at wardscorner.com He approached Taskforce with idea of moving present sidewalk at Perry property away from the Little Creek Rd traffic by allowing a grassy area for safety and esthetics. Dollar Tree is in negotiations for a site at WC, also Mo's Southwest Grill.

The meeting adjourned at 815PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joan S Griffey, Sec.

NEWS AND NOTES

Interested in attracting butterflies to your gardens? Dee Stowell has swan plants and cassia plants to share. These are host plants for monarch and sulphur butterflies. Dee will be in her garden at 7404 Colony Point Rd to give away these plants on the afternoons of June 19 & 20 between 2 & 4pm.

Your help is needed to pick up litter at the Wards Corner Civic League Adopt-A- Spot (Ruthven Road at W. Little Creek Rd.) on Saturday, June 22, at 8:00 AM. It only takes an hour or two and makes an impressive difference in the area. Gloves, trash bags and safety vest provided. Questions-call Ray Duron at 423-4337.

Newsletter Deliverers Needed

Do you enjoy receiving this newsletter each month? We still do not have enough people who are willing to distribute newsletters to all the homes in our League area. Help is needed to deliver newsletters on the 100-300 blocks of North Shore Road and on Grantham and Nesbitt Roads. It only takes about an hour a month, 10 months each year. Please consider helping. Volunteers are also needed as a substitute periodically. Please call Sue Classick at 489-2315.

We currently have 122 paid households that are members of our Civic League. Is yours one of these? Contact Ray Duron to pay your \$5.00 dues.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balance			\$1942.00
+ funds received	\$70.00		
- funds disbursed		\$105.00	
Ending Balance			\$1,907.00

WCCL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Jim English	423-7154
1st VP/ Membership	Martin Thomas, Jr.	618-6468
2nd VP/Newslet- ter distribution	Sue Classick	489-2315
Secretary	Joan Griffey	440-9508
Treasurer	Ray Duron	423-4337

Web Master – Martin Thomas, Jr. (618-6468)
Newsletter Editor – Barbara Ross (489-1024 or bookworms@whro.net)

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Police Non-Emergency	441-5610
Pace Officer	831-3484
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
Police Emergency	911

