

Wards Corner Civic League

Crossroads

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

April 2016 Web site www.wardscorner.com

CIVIC LEAGUE MEETING

NORFOLK FITNESS and WELLNESS CENTER

Speakers

Candidates for Norfolk School Board

Dr. Noelle Gabriele
Mr. Carter Smith

Community Resource Officer
William Old

Monday

April 18, 2016
6:45 – 8:30 PM

Presidents Message

By Jim English

ajim.english@gmail.com

Dear Neighbors,

On May 3rd our area has a real chance to boost its influence on Norfolk City Council by electing Andy Protogyrou as its Mayor. I normally don't show my support or endorse a candidate for any election, but this year I believe I must do so. While I know all three of the candidates running for Mayor and know that they are good people, it is Andy Protogyrou that stands above them and should be our next Mayor. Andy has worked very hard for the betterment and revitalization of Wards Corner for the past 6 years as our Ward 1 councilman. I should know as I have worked for this revitalization effort for 16 years and along with him for the past six years. During that short time we have made far more progress than in those first years of effort. If you look around the Greater Wards Corner area you can see the signs of progress that he has championed. Whether it is the total remodeling of the K&K Shopping Center which has a zero vacancy rate, to the acquisition and demolition of so many blighted apartment buildings in Denby Park to the signature Public Art at the gateway to

Wards Corner on Granby Street, his influence is there. Besides that, Andy has been a force to reckon with on City Council and has made successful alliances with other council members to ensure that when a vote is needed for Wards Corner or other important projects or issues in the city, he has the votes to get it approved. He has been a remarkable quick start and has accomplished much in his 6 years on city council. His vision is right for Norfolk. "As your Mayor, we'll have a city that works for everyone. I have a vision for a Norfolk that is better, stronger, cleaner, and safer. A Norfolk that attracts and grows businesses; whose port is the preferred east coast destination for maritime commerce; a Norfolk that is a model for fiscal responsibility; that takes pride in its schools; a city that weaves the threads of its communities into a vibrant fabric that attracts people to live, work and play." Andy Protogyrou.

For these reasons and many more I am supporting Andy Protogyrou for Mayor and endorsing his candidacy. I urge all of you to consider doing the same.

<https://andymayor2016.com/>

And now for the second part of this election campaign stuff. When Andy is elected Mayor (and even if he is not) his seat will be vacant. Our own Martin Thomas Jr. has announced his candidacy to fill that seat and become the councilman for Ward 1. According to a longtime friend of Wards Corner, Louis Eisenberg, "Martin is the best choice to succeed Councilman [Andrew Protogyrou](#). Martin is tenacious. When Martin sinks his teeth into an issue that he believes in, he doesn't let loose. He is just the advocate that we need to represent Ward One and our city. He will bring his forward thinking ideas to City Council on what a 21st Century Norfolk should be. [Martin Thomas Jr.](#) listens to the citizens before he acts. His decisions are made only after he has considered the "what ifs", thus preventing hasty decisions that need to be reversed. Not only is Martin an accomplished attorney, he has a background in City Planning which he uses quite effectively on the City Planning Commission. I have seen Martin take on powerful developers who present mediocre developments before the Planning Commission, and he gets those developers to improve their projects.

Martin Thomas Jr. has paid his dues. He is not a Johnny-come-lately to Ward One issues. He has been a consistently powerful voice in his advocacy for the removal of the sub-standard multi-family housing in Denby Park and Monticello Village. He is knowledgeable about sea-level rise that affects us all in Norfolk. He knows that good city planning can be a deterrent to crime and a factor in improving the economic development opportunities of our city.

And lastly, Martin Thomas Jr. knows that good schools and the educated populace that they produce is a necessity for Norfolk to attract quality companies that will create high paying jobs.

When City Council decides on the date of the Special Election to fill the vacant Ward One seat, I urge you to consider voting for Martin Thomas Jr."

I am also supporting and endorsing Martin Thomas Jr. for Norfolk City Council for Ward 1.

Just consider the possibilities and future opportunities for the Greater Wards Corner Area. Wards Corner will one day be a destination to go to and a once again a vibrant shopping and residential community. We are almost there - let's not stop now. **We need both of these gentlemen on city council.**

Let us also not forget that we have two other elections that affect us, that of Super Ward 6 and Norfolk School Board. While I am not showing my support to any of these candidates let me say they are all capable individuals.

The other candidates for Mayor are:
Kenny Alexander <http://www.kennyalexander.com/>
Bob McCabe
<http://www.bobmccabeformayor.com/about-bob>

The candidates for SuperWard 6 are:

Andria McClellan <http://www.andriamcclellan.com/>
Warren Stewart
<http://www.friendsofwarrenstewart.com/home.html>
Incumbent Councilman Barclay Winn Candidate
<https://www.facebook.com/councilmanbarclaywinn/>

The candidates for Norfolk School Board are:
Noelle Gabrielle <http://www.noellegabriel.com/>
Carter Smith <http://cartersmithnorfolk.com/>

I urge you to become informed about these candidates and make your choice for the person you believe will be the best person to represent us in Wards Corner and the city. Remember the candidate with the biggest signs and most and flashiest mailers or website is not necessarily the best candidate for the job. They just have the most money and bought influence.

I hope to see you at our next civic league meeting on April 18th when we will hear the candidates for Norfolk School Board tell us why they are the best candidate.

Thanks and see you at the next meeting.

Sincerely,



TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balance			\$1,995.05
+ funds received	\$180.00		
- funds disbursed		\$151.05	
Ending Balance			\$2,024.00

Membership

Please help to support your Civic League by paying your 2016 dues.
Our dues amount is a bargain-\$5.00/person. Our current membership is 81 households.

Send your check with your name, address, phone and e-mail to Ray Duron at 530 Sterling Street, 23505 or bring it to a meeting.

WCCL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Jim English	423-7154
1st VP/ Membership	Martin Thomas, Jr.	618-6468
2nd VP/Newsletter distribution	Sue Classick	489-2315
Secretary	Joan Griffey	440-9508
Treasurer	Ray Duron	423-4337
Newsletter Editor	Barbara Ross	739-3600
Member-at-large	Scott Guirlinger	489-3938

Web Master – Martin Thomas, Jr. (618-6468)

Newsletter Editor –Barbara Ross

Bookworms@WHRO.net

Wards Corner Civic League Minutes

WCCL met at 6:45 PM on Monday March 21, 2016 in NFW Center with President Jim English welcoming 32 guests and leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Community Resource Officer Toth reported 5 larcenies: 7600 block Bondale, 400 block Birmingham, 400 block North Shore, 7600 block Sheryl, 7600 block Granby (bank), a shooting 7600 block Granby and a burglary 400 block Grantham. He noted an increase in larcenies from autos, stressing crime is based on opportunity, thus the need for safeguards in locking the car and removing all items. He addressed questions and neighborhood concerns: bike patrols, neighbor awareness, an increase in local criminal behavior. Call 911 or 664-6510 to report truancy or other problems.

Vice Pres. Martin Thomas, Jr. announced his candidacy for City Council in the Fall. A resident in WC since 2007, he is a board member of WCCL, has developed our website and succeeded in adding it to our neighborhood green signs, is webmaster of WardsCornerNow, encouraged WC citizens to sign on to NextDoorNeighbor, is Vice Chair of the Planning Commission, represents WC on the Mayor's Taskforce, and has influence throughout this area. Our current council representative, Andy Protogyrou, will relinquish his seat after this election in May.

Guest speakers were our State representatives, Senator Lynwood Lewis and Delegate Robert Bloxom, both residents of the Eastern Shore. Together, they presented facts on the State budget, rainy day fund, bonds, retirement, investments, the Port and shipping. COPN (certificate of public need), gun safety, beach replenishment, coastal resiliency fund, new General Assembly Building construction and trains, and then answered questions.

Percy Peele from Eggleston Services asked for car (boat, etc.) donations for their auto auctions. "Donate a car, save a life". Call 963-8393 for info.

VP Thomas (Planning Commission) reported new area businesses: Dunkin' Donuts on Hampton Blvd., Jimmy Johns, Noodles and Company at Lowes outparcel on Military Highway, Dirty Buffalo at 41st and Colley, Salvation Army Thrift Store at Azalea Inn area, Mi Hogar addition, Fuddruckers at Southern and the demolition of the old Meadowbrook School.

The civic league social March 2 (6-8 PM) at Guads was lightly attended, but future ones will be scheduled. June 25 is the date selected for our WCCL picnic at the North Shore Playground.

The meeting adjourned at 815 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joan S Griffey, Sec.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Police Non-Emergency	441-5610
Pace Officer	252-207-4361
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

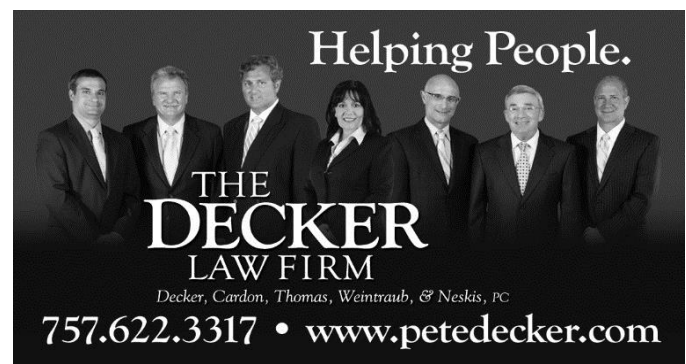
SAVE THE DATE!

Neighborhood Picnic
Saturday, June 25th, 12-3pm
North Shore Playground

Dogs, burgers, condiments, plates and utensils provided. Bring a dish to share, chairs/blanket to sit on, games to play.

HELPERS STILL NEEDED/HIGH SCHOOLERS TO HELP ORGANIZE CHILDREN'S GAMES

Please contact Scott Guirlinger at scott.guirlinger@gmail.com or 489-3938 to volunteer



City Codes Enforcement has been asked by concerned home owners in our area to more closely patrol and issue notices to those who park vehicles on their homes' lawn. Please park only on paved areas.