



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

January 2018

www.wardscorner.com

President's Letter

Dear Neighbors,

Happy New Year!
We've already had an interesting 2018 with snowstorms and freezing temperatures. I hope that all of you have fared ok through it all.

Need a suggestion for a late New Year's resolution? How about resolving to report concerns you see around the neighborhood to the city so that they can be addressed? It's as simple as visiting the Norfolk CARES website from your computer or smartphone, or calling 664-6510, and providing a little bit of basic information on what the problem is - sidewalk repair, streetlight repair, damaged tree, parking on grass, overgrown landscaping, street tree requests, etc. A little bit of attention to detail around our neighborhood can go a long way, especially over the course of an entire year. Let's make 2018 a great year for Wards Corner!

Speaking of New Year's resolutions, our civic league board has already followed through on one of our planned resolutions to accept civic league membership dues electronically. Now you can easily pay your annual dues on our website through PayPal, in addition to the traditional cash or check at our meetings. If you have any questions or concerns,

Come join us at our next meeting!

Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center

Monday, January 22, 2018, 6:30 – 8:00 PM

Guest Speaker: Bryan Tarvin

Director, Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center

please do not hesitate to contact us.

I'm excited about the speaker at our January meeting. We've received many comments,

questions, and complaints over the years about the state of the Norfolk Fitness & Wellness Center (NFWC) facility and operations. As this is the only city facility within the official confines of our neighborhood, we have a vested interest in its success and upkeep. Please join us on January 22nd for a presentation by the NFWC director on the present and future of the center and bring your questions and comments to share with him during a Q&A session after the presentation. Many of us have talked at length in the past about issues at the center; now is our chance to talk to the person who can make actual plans for necessary changes! We have invited residents of the nearby Talbot Park and Suburban Acres neighborhoods to join us for this discussion.

We are also formally invited to a special meeting the following night in Talbot Park concerning the Westport Commons development, just south and opposite of the Fitness & Wellness Center on Newport Ave. The developer, Art Collins, and his architect have some changes they must review with

Upcoming Events

Monday, January 22,* 6:30 – 8:00pm, Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center: WCCL General Meeting

Tuesday, January 23, 6:30pm, Royster Memorial Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall: Talbot Park Civic League Meeting with Collins Presentation (WCCL invited; Collins Presentation starts at 7:15)

Wednesday, February 7, 6:00pm, Workforce Development Center: Wards Corner Advisory Committee Community Meeting (rescheduled from January 17)

Monday, February 26,* 6:30 – 8:00pm, Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center: WCCL General Meeting

*Meetings held on 4th Monday due to holidays

both their civic league and ours before the changes are presented to the Architectural Review Board (ARB). We have something of a long history with this developer and were generally displeased with the unapproved exterior changes he made to the last building on the Westport Commons property. Like us, if you are concerned or interested in this ongoing development taking place on the border of our neighborhood, please plan to attend and bring your constructive critic "hat" with you.

Here at the start of another calendar year, our board is looking for ideas on what speakers and topics you would like to hear from at our upcoming meetings. If you have suggestions to share, please send them to us at info@wardscorner.com or contact one of your friendly civic league board members.

Thank you. See you around the neighborhood!

Scott Guirlinger

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance			\$1685.39
+ funds received	80.00		
- funds disbursed		\$231.42	
Ending Balance			\$1533.97

WCCL Board of Directors: Election Results

The following WCCL Board members were elected at the December 18, 2017 membership meeting:

President	Scott Guirlinger	489-3938
1st VP Membership	Socko Pearson	663-8878
2nd VP Newsletter	Chris DePalma	641-2398
Secretary	Fred Baker	739-9815
Treasurer	Brian Daniel	575-3635
Newsletter Editor	Carolyn DePalma	641-2398
Member-At-Large	Liz Lockwood	685-6348
Member-At-Large	Dan Graves	617-2240

It's that time of year – pay up! Our dues are \$10.00 per household per year. You can pay Treasurer Brian Daniel by cash or check at the next meeting or go to wardscorner.com and pay via PayPal.

Holiday Decorating Contest Winners

Thanks to everyone who decorated! You brightened up our neighborhood this holiday season.

Our winners are:

1st Place: 601 Timothy
\$30 Gift Card to Guads

2nd Place: 7806 Nesbitt
\$20 Gift Card to Guads

Most Creative: 7350 Colonial
\$15 Gift Card to Guads

Look for a board member to deliver the gift cards the weekend of January 20.

Honorable Mentions go to:

300 Burleigh	421 Burleigh
517 Burleigh	7703 Nesbitt

Important Numbers

Police Non-Emergency	757-823-4433
Pace Officer	252-207-4361
Police Red Sector	757-823-4450
Norfolk Cares Call Center Call for: Sewer Backup, Code Enforcement, Waste Management, Animal Control – everything else!	757-664-6510
Police Emergency	911

Wards Corner Civic League – Membership Meeting December 18, 2017

Opening 6:35pm

After the pledge of allegiance, Officer Old provided his report. He reported on one Robbery, two stolen autos (one recovered, the other a tow-away for violation), and one shooting indoors due to an argument. He also mentioned that there was no updated information regarding the incident at Walgreens. Officer Old was asked to check on the Neighborhood Watch sign posted on Birmingham. Lastly, he again offered to host a bike safety meeting for our young riders in Wards Corner. Keep your eyes on NextDoor and www.wardscorner.com for updates as we try to schedule this.

Chief Boone of the Norfolk PD then spoke about our Police Force. He pointed out that crime is down from 2016. Violent Crimes have been reduced by 19%, and property crimes are down 14%. Chief Boone talked about the research he has done based on five-year and ten-year timelines that point at very specific areas that generate "crime drivers." His next task, already ongoing, is to create and enact "surgically-specific focused" round ups and investigations into these crime drivers. He has shown such success that areas like Richmond are calling him asking what he is doing to make these improvements possible. He closed with emphasis that community outreach is another large part of his plan. His officers are expected to perform in community outreach in order to be considered for promotions as well. I will note at this point, we made sure to complement our own CRO, Officer Billy Old, for his responsiveness, and the detail he provides us as our CRO. Finally, he mentioned that his outreach included visiting local clergy from several places of worship, and having clergy join his officers on Friday nights. This 'Clergy Patrol' adds another level of community connection. He also provides citizens with his cell#: 757-390-0384. We thanked the Chief for his hard work, as well as his visit.

Our last speaker, Andy Sutter with Air Specialty Heating & Cooling of Norfolk, gave us some tips to help keep the warm air in our houses where it belongs. Install clean air filters, or clean your filters if possible, every month because dirt clogs your furnace and air conditioning and is the quickest way to lose efficiency and possibly harm the system. Mr. Sutter emphasized attic insulation - the more, the better. It keeps the hot air out during the summer and in during the winter, saving you both energy and money. Keep your blinds closed, as they are a barrier to the hot sun in summer. This will also keep the sun from heating your floors and furniture to the point where they become a drain on your system as much as the hot air itself. Ceiling fans are a good way to circulate the air to maintain more stable temperatures. Click [Air Specialty Heating & Cooling of Norfolk](#) for more information.

Councilman Martin Thomas advised that he was meeting with the owners of Midtown Shopping Center, so we look forward to his report on that meeting.

Scott took over for League Business with the following:

- The December Newsletter will be the last printed newsletter, with a few exceptions for those that cannot get it electronically.
- We are looking into electronic payments for Board Membership.
- We will be announcing the winners of the December Holiday Decorations contest.
- We have formed a committee to update the North Shore playground.
- There is a public forum on 1-17-18 to discuss the Wards Corner business district openly and the direction we as residents want to see it go. Keep an eye on NextDoor for information on where to attend.
- Finally, 2018 WCCL Board Elections!!!! A new at-large position of the Board was approved by vote and added to the Board head count and then the 2018 WCCL Board was voted on and elected.

Your new Board is as follows:

President – Scott Gurlinger
 Vice President – Membership Socko Pearson
 Vice President – Newsletter Chris DePalma
 Secretary – Fred Baker
 Treasurer – Brian Daniel
 Newsletter Editor – Carolyn DePalma
 At Large – Dan Graves
 At Large – Liz Lockwood

Why Join Your Civic League?

Civic leagues are formed to benefit the neighborhoods they represent. They work to make sure any new businesses, residences, etc., meet the standards of your neighborhood. They look out for public spaces, parks, etc. Your civic league is also your representative to the city.

Did you know that it was the work of the local civic leagues that helped turn the old Jewish Community Center into the Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center rather than become condos, keeping our green space?

St. Pius Catholic School

"Celebrating Catholic Schools Week"

Open House

Sunday, January 28, 2018 9:00am – 12:00pm

Now Enrolling • School Tours • Meet the Faculty and Staff

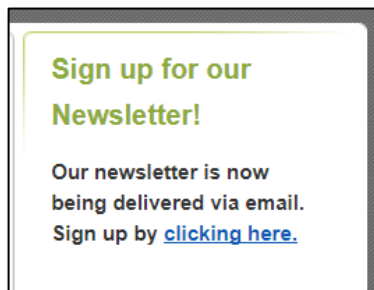
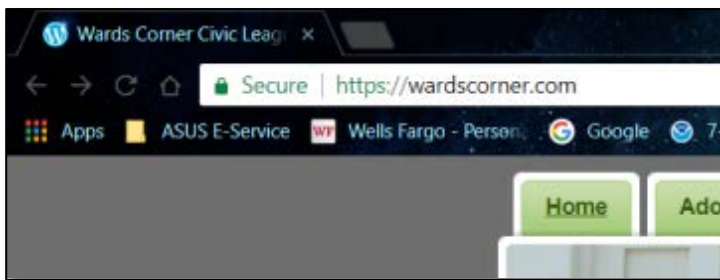
Signed Up?

Are you receiving this newsletter via email? If not, sign up!

As most of you are aware, we are no longer delivering the newsletter to your home due to the lack of delivery volunteers. You can, however, have the newsletter emailed to you directly by signing up. The newsletter can also be viewed/downloaded from the Nextdoor website, *nextdoor.com*, or the Wards Corner website, *wardscorner.com*.

The printed newsletter will also be available at as yet-to-be determined sites in Wards Corner.

1. Go online to wardscorner.com



3. Complete the form and click **Subscribe to list**. You will automatically be added to the list.

Wards Corner Civic League

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