



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

October 2018

www.wardscorner.com

President's Letter

Fall is here! And with it comes one of our neighborhood's best holidays, at least in my opinion. Halloween in Wards Corner is always a great community event. I look forward to seeing many of you out around the neighborhood that evening. And same as last year, we are running a competition for the best two Halloween decoration displays. Show us what you've got!

There's a lot of discussion circulating and confusion surrounding the city's implementation of bike lanes, particularly in the Granby Street corridor between the Lafayette River bridge and I-564. Brian Donegan, the president of the Talbot Park civic league, has devoted many hours to researching the city's current proposal and the guidelines that drive effective bike lane design. Matt Powell, a member of the Norfolk Bicycle & Pedestrian Trails Commission and fellow Wards Corner resident, has seen the design process up close and regularly commutes by bicycle to the downtown area. Both will be speaking at our

Come join us at our next meeting!

Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center

Monday, October 15, 2018, 6:30 – 8:00 PM

Regular Speakers:

Martin Thomas, Vice Mayor, City of Norfolk

Adale Martin, School Board, Ward 1

William Old, NPD Community Resource Officer

Guest Speakers:

Matt Powell, Norfolk Bicycle & Pedestrian Trails Commission

Brian Donegan, President Talbot Park Civic League

discussion as well following their presentation. I believe it should be a productive conversation and look forward to participating in that conversation with all of you.

Finally, the city along with members from the residential and business community, participated in an

urban development study funded by the state and focused on the Wards Corner business district. The outcome was a vision for what Wards Corner might look like in 20-30 years, with some shorter range targets identified as well. The study results can be found at www.norfolk.gov/wardscornerstudy. This is not a binding contract by any means, but is a plan that can presented to future developers so that they can understand what the surrounding community has envisioned as a desirable end state for the business district. At least one major plot in the district appears to be ready for redevelopment within the next 2-3 years (current Kroger site), so we're excited to see what may be coming soon.

Dates to Remember

Monday, October 15, 6:30 – 8:00 pm, Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center: WCCL General Meeting

Fridays, October 12, 19, 26, 5:00 – 7:00 pm, Elmwood Cemetery: History, Mystery, Mayhem & Murder Tour

Tuesday, November 6, 6:00 am – 7:00 pm, Polling Places; Election Day

Monday, November 19, 6:30 – 8:00 pm, Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center: WCCL General Meeting

upcoming meeting on October 15th to help educate the rest of us on the good, the bad, and the ugly from what research has found in regards to bike lane design. We will have some time for general

Thank you to everyone who participated in this study.

Scott Guirlinger

Wards Corner Civic League Membership Meeting, September 17, 2018

31 in attendance

Open 6:32pm – Pledge of Allegiance

Officer Old reported that over the summer, the primary complaint was vandalism to automobiles, specifically stolen license plates, and vehicle larceny including weapon gone missing. There were two (2) commercial robberies closed by arrest, and one (1) rape report but prosecution was declined by the victim.

Rick Dempsey – Norfolk Utilities reports that the repairs on the 300 block of Little Creek Road are now completed. The work on the 600 blocks of Burleigh and Little Creek and a small portion of Ruthven will continue, with an estimated completion by next spring/summer. The pump station is now on hold indefinitely.

Susan Platt, the Public Information Specialist for Norfolk Bureau of Cemeteries, based in Elwood Cemetery, spoke next. She brought Robert Hitchens, a historian and character actor for tours and information sessions about Norfolk cemeteries and some of their residents. Also speaking was Diana Ramsey with the Norfolk Society for Cemetery Conservation. Membership/donations go towards upkeep and repair of stones and monuments, which are normally the province of the owner's family. There are several themed and guided tours that respectfully tell the stories of the people and symbolism that can be found in our cemeteries. For more information, visit www.norfolk.gov/cemeteries.

Scott Gurlinger, WCCL President, noted that we had a great turnout at the annual picnic as well as both WCCL socials at Guad's over the summer. The park water abatement plan is still in the works, but hopefully a date will be scheduled to get the plants in the ground. Our next Adopt-a-Spot day at the field adjacent to Norfolk Wellness and Fitness Center, will be Saturday, November 17, 9:00 am.

Martin Thomas, Vice Mayor, Norfolk, spoke next. Norfolk Southern will be leaving Norfolk in a few years, consolidating offices to their Atlanta location. Rail and operations will still be here, but administrations in downtown will be leaving. He also mentioned that there is an RFP out now for companies willing to take over the recycling of our fair city.

Adale Martin of the NPS Schoolboard let us know that their meetings are televised and occur every first and third Monday of each month. The School Board has created a Special Education Advisory Committee, a Policy Committee as well as a Temporary Security and Safety Taskforce.

At our next meeting, we expect to cover the subject of bike lanes. Come join in and hear what everyone has to say, and even get involved in the conversation yourself.

We are planning to accept the invitation of Suburban Acres Civic League for a joint holiday party as well, so keep your eye out for details.

Adjourned 7:52pm

Become a member!

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.

Treasurer's Report

	ACCOUNT	
	CHECKING	PAYPAL
Beginning balance	\$1,400.42	\$14.10
Funds received (cash/check)*	\$250.00	0
Funds received (PayPal)	0	0
Funds deposited (cash)	\$10.00	
Funds dispersed	\$578.49	0
Ending balance	\$1,031.93	\$32.92

Cash on hand = \$40.00

Come Help Out at our Adopt-a-Spot



Our next Adopt-a-Spot day has been scheduled for Saturday, November 17, at 9:00 am with our assigned Adopt-a-Spot the green space/grounds of the Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center.

Please join us and help keep Norfolk beautiful!

Are You Ready to Vote?

We'll be voting for to send our Senator and Representative to Washington on Tuesday, November 6.

You can request an absentee ballot through Tuesday, October 30th at 5:00 pm, or vote in person absentee through Saturday, November 3 at 5:00 pm. For more information, visit:

www.norfolk.gov/elections

Or call: 757-664-4353

Please vote and make sure your voice is heard!



And Speaking of Elections...

Interested in joining the board? Come to the January 28 meeting to throw your name in the ring! Or at the very least, show up and vote.

WCCL Board members serve for one year and include the following:

- ❖ President
- ❖ 1st Vice President (Membership)
- ❖ 2nd Vice President (Website and Social Media)
- ❖ Secretary
- ❖ Treasurer
- ❖ Newsletter Editor
- ❖ Member at Large (Events)

It's Back!

Our annual Halloween decorating contest is back this year. Board members will be driving around to judge decorated houses October 27-28. The top two winners will receive gift cards to a local store or restaurant.

Bring out your scariest ghouls and goblins and start decorating!



Norfolk Happenings

From the www.Norfolk.gov website:

Slover Library Guest Author Series

- October 18, 2018; 5:30 – 7:30 PM - Michael Twitty, *The Cooking Gene*
- January 27, 2019; 4:00 – 6:00 PM - Catherine Kerrison, *Jefferson's Daughters: Three Sisters, White and Black, in a Young America*
- April 4, 2019; 5:30 – 7:30 PM – Robert D. Putnam, *Our Kids: The American Dream in Crisis*

Norfolk Public Libraries

Norfolk Public Libraries are great places for fun events! Check out the latest calendar here:

<https://www.norfolkpubliclibrary.org/events>

Granby Elementary Fall Festival



Granby Elementary is holding its annual Fall Festival on Friday, October 19, from 5:00 – 7:30 pm. Community members are welcome to attend.

Please contact Granby PTA on Facebook if you are interested in volunteering.

WCCL Board of Directors

President	Scott Guirlinger	489-3938
1 st VP Membership	Socko Pearson	663-8878
2 nd 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

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

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