



## 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

June 2021

[www.wardscorner.com](http://www.wardscorner.com)

Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events

### Virtual Meeting via Zoom Monday, June 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6:30pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83944878966?pwd=Z0grUctCRU0vem5QTERPSXRBMUhXdz09>

Meeting ID: 839 4487 8966

Passcode: 563860

### Featured Speaker:

Michael Allen, Associate Professor & Geography Program Director, ODU

### Other Speakers:

Finale Norton, Candidate for Delegate, 100<sup>th</sup> District

Adam Goldberg, Candidate for Norfolk Commissioner of the Revenue

### Adopt-A-Spot Cleanup Saturday, August 14<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00am Norfolk Fitness & Wellness Center

### SAVE THE DATE Neighborhood Social Saturday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> @ North Shore Playground

### President's Message

Summer is here! And thankfully we can all enjoy it more than we did last year. Funny how some sense of normalcy, no matter the size, can really lift your spirits.

Summer means heat and this month we welcome professor Michael Allen as our featured guest speaker. Dr. Allen and his team have worked to map the average temperature levels across the city. This has resulted in some interesting findings on where our city is typically warmer and colder.

Parts of our city are significantly warmer than others, between 10 and 15 degrees, enhancing heat vulnerability at the neighborhood level. This is a popular topic not only here, but elsewhere in the state. Just recently I read an article at [www.cbf.org/southside](http://www.cbf.org/southside) about how Richmond is planting trees to address excessive heat in historically

redlined neighborhoods. Please plan to join our Zoom meeting, learn more, and participate in the discussion.

Looking ahead, our civic league meetings will be getting back closer to normal this fall. We plan to host in-person meetings once again at the Fitness & Wellness Center conference room. We did learn this year that many people watch the recorded meetings if they cannot attend in person, so while we do not believe that we have the capability to offer a live hybrid (Zoom) experience, we can at least record the meeting and post it for residents to watch later.

I'm also excited to announce that we plan to host a neighborhood social on October 2nd at the North Shore Playground with some light (individually packaged) refreshments and yard games. It won't be the full fanfare of our past potluck picnics, but it will still be a great (and safe) way to catch up with neighbors we

haven't seen in a while and meet some new neighbors as well.

As usual we will take a break from meetings and newsletters in July and August. So I will wish you all a happy Independence Day now. I hope that we can all show some American spirit with our flags, both large and small. It really is nice to see our neighborhood come alive for the 4th of July.

Stay well this summer. See you around the neighborhood!

*Scott Guirlinger*

### **Provide your input on Granby Street Bike Lane Design Concepts!**

Do you walk, drive, or bike along Granby Street between Willow Wood Drive and Admiral Taussig Boulevard (just south of the I-564 overpass)?

If so, we need to hear from you and your neighbors – again!

The Department of Transit is hosting a second Granby Street Bike Lane virtual workshop on June 29, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m., to get your input as we work to develop a potential project that would repurpose one vehicle lane in each direction into bike lanes along this portion of Granby Street.

During the workshop, learn about the traffic study results and provide your comments on potential design concepts in small group break-out sessions with the project team. RSVP to save your seat and receive a link to the virtual workshop: <https://bit.ly/3wWiJAr>.

Visit [www.norfolk.gov/granbybike](http://www.norfolk.gov/granbybike) for project information and to share your ideas.

Don't forget to pass this information along to your members and neighbors.

### **Norfolk Police Department Community Survey 2021**

From Larry D. Boone, Chief of Police:

On behalf of the entire Norfolk Police Department and as a key part of our continuing efforts to build community trust, I would appreciate you taking a few minutes to complete this survey regarding police services, your safety, and crime in the City of Norfolk. The results will be used not only to build public trust, but to direct the department's operational strategies as we strive to provide the most responsive, effective, and professional services possible.

Please indicate the responses that best represent your opinion and provide any other information as appropriate. Your participation is voluntary and each question is optional. Again, thank you for taking the time to provide us with your valuable input.

[https://www.opentownhall.com/portals/77/Issue\\_10694/survey\\_responses/new](https://www.opentownhall.com/portals/77/Issue_10694/survey_responses/new)

### **City outdoor pools will not open this summer**

City outdoor pools will not open this summer. The city is currently not planning to open any outdoor pools this summer, including the outdoor pool at the Norfolk Fitness & Wellness Center located in Wards Corner. The city manager has stated that there is a lifeguard shortage and there will not be sufficient staffing to open outdoor pools. Indoor pools and beaches are set to remain open and staffed by city lifeguards.



Are you 16 or older and looking for summer or part-time employment? Consider applying for a lifeguard position with the City of Norfolk. The city is looking for lifeguards for Norfolk beaches and indoor pools. Interviews are held weekly

### **Treasurer's Report**

	ACCOUNT		
	CHECKS	CASH	PAYPAL
Beginning balance	\$1,264.01	\$70.00	\$860.41
Funds received	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9.41
Funds deposited	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Funds dispersed	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Ending balance	\$1,264.01	\$70.00	\$869.82
Total balance	\$2,203.83		

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## Civic League Board of Directors

Contact Information

[www.wardscorner.com/board-of-directors](http://www.wardscorner.com/board-of-directors)

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## Membership Meeting Minutes

May 17th, 2021

*(Virtual meeting recording available on request)*

Officer Toth provided an update on criminal activity in the Wards Corner area.

- Auto larcenies trending down.
- Violent Crime Initiative- Thursday through Sunday, evening to 4:00am, extra set of officers from the 1st, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> precincts patrolling crime areas.
- He is to follow-up on property at the corner of Millbrook and North Shore.

Candidate Forum, State Delegate, 79<sup>th</sup> District, Democratic Primary

Each candidate gave an opening statement and what they expect to accomplish if elected and answered questions.

- Steve Heretick (incumbent)
- Nadarius Clark

Candidate Forum, Commonwealth's Attorney Democratic Candidates, City of Norfolk

Each candidate gave an opening statement and what they expect to accomplish if elected and answered questions.

- Ramin Fatehi
- Amina Matheny-Willard
- Megan Zwisohn

Vice Mayor Martin Thomas added city updates and answered questions.

- Budget adoption for next year highlights.
  - \$4 million for NFWC for initial planning and engineering for new NFWC to decide to renovate or rebuild.
  - \$8.6 million for NPS.
  - Increase police officer pay by average of 8%.

- MetroNet 100% fiber optic internet, TV and phone coming to Norfolk. Will begin laying fiber later this year.

School Board Representative Adale Martin (Ward 1) added school updates and answered questions.

- All five high school's graduation ceremonies to be held in person at ODU's Ballard Stadium.
- NPS planning to return to the classroom full time in the Fall.
- Providing options for distance learning through the Virtual Scholarship Academy and Virtual Virginia.
- Continuing to discuss a path forward concerning the renaming of three schools named after people affiliated with the Confederacy.
  - Maury High School
  - Ruffner Middle
  - Taylor Elementary
- Dr. Sharon Birdsong, Superintendent of NPS to present budget for 2021-2022 school year.
- NPS has partnered with the Norfolk Public Health Department to provide free vaccinations for students 16 years and older, parental consent needed.

The next WCCL meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 21 at 6:30pm. It will be virtual.

President Scott Gurlinger then closed the meeting.

## Important Numbers

Police Non-Emergency	<b>757-823-4433</b>
Community Resource Officer	<b>757-651-4577</b>
Police Red Sector	<b>757-823-4450</b>
Norfolk Cares Call Center Call for: Sewer Backup, Code Enforcement, Waste Management, Animal Control – everything else!	<b>757-664-6510</b>
Police Emergency	<b>911</b>

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