



WARDS CORNER CIVIC LEAGUE

CROSSROADS

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

January, 2008 Web site www.Wardscorner.com

CIVIC LEAGUE MEETING MONDAY

**January 28, 2008
6:45 PM**

**NORFOLK FITNESS and WELLNESS
CENTER**

Agenda

Guzin Akan-Traffic Pattern Changes

Election of Officers

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Jim English jenglish@odu.edu

Jim's message will return next month.

WCCL Accomplishments in 2007

As we reflect on the previous year, it's important to focus on all the accomplishments in our area.

Here are some highlights from 2007.

Have you noticed the new construction? There are single-family homes that have been built on Newport, Maycox, and Burleigh Avenues and Granby Street. The townhomes on Grantham have been completed and look very nice. Apartment buildings on Newport Avenue have been razed to make way for a large condominium project. In addition to the new construction, there has been evidence of a lot of remodeling at many homes.

Projects that our residents and leaders have lobbied for have been completed. Among them are the flag poles that were installed on the Granby High School median, and additional stop

signs placed on the Burleigh and Maycox Avenues' intersection with Ruthven. There is one-way traffic in front of the new townhomes on Grantham. The North Shore playground has new benches and play equipment, although there is hope that there will be some landscaping and other equipment added. A fenced dumpster at Sai Gai restaurant has been built, and the appearance is much improved at that corner.

There has been evidence of growth in many areas-the Fitness and Wellness Center continues to add programs, equipment, and members (over 7,000 at the last report). Needed repairs to the pool enclosure were made in December. Our WCCL Website, www.Wardscorner.com, also continues to grow and offer news and links to other informative sites, thanks to Martin Thomas, Jr. Martin has also developed the WardsCornerNow.com website that serves as the voice of the Wards Corner Partnership.

One of the very positive highlights of the year was a fence that was built at the end of Burleigh Avenue, close to the apartments on West Little Creek Road. Neighbors in that area and on Burleigh voiced their concern about the pedestrian traffic cutting through to Burleigh from Little Creek, with the intent to commit vandalism and criminal activity. They worked closely with Board members to make City leaders aware of the problem, and to obtain permits necessary to provide the approval for the fence. Neighbors, along with the Civic League, provided money to aid the homeowner with the expenses, and he built the fence. This is the type of a problem that can bring a neighborhood together to focus on a solution and to enact that solution. Many voices seem to be heard more readily than just a few, and this is a goal of your Civic League.

Another positive in this past year was that several new people stepped up to assist with the monthly newspaper delivery. Others are still needed, so put that on your list of resolutions for 2008!

NEIGHBORHOOD ETIQUETTE

1. Trash cans should be placed at the curb no earlier than 5 PM the night before pick-up, and no later than 7 AM the day of pick-up. Remove all emptied containers from the street as soon as possible after they have been emptied, but not later than 11:30 PM of the collection day.

2. Be conscious of a new ordinance-no person shall park a vehicle or permit it to stand, whether attended or unattended, in the following areas: in front of a public or private driveway on a street or alley, or within three feet of the edge of the driveway entrance, unless otherwise indicated.

3. It is unlawful to park or store, or allow to park or be stored, in the front or corner side yard in a residence district, any motor vehicle on an unimproved surface, including but not limited to dirt or grass, or in an area not approved by the Director of Public Works.

4. Remember to carry a "doggie bag" when walking Fido for those quick pick-me-ups.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Our Board of Directors will be elected at the January meeting. Current officers have agreed to run again, the Nominating Committee, headed by Jack Blair, will provide names of others who have agreed to run, and nominations will be taken from the floor. Come, join your Civic League, and vote!!

WCCL Board of Directors

President	Jim English	423-7154
1 st VP/ Membership	Linda Spear	402-8583
2 nd VP/ Newsletter Distribution	Martin Thomas, Jr.	618-6468
Secretary	Joan Griffey	440-9508
Treasurer	Ray Duron	423-4337

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

Newsletter ideas/comments-Barbara Ross
(Bookworms@WHRO.Net or 489-1024)

UPCOMING EVENTS AND REMINDERS

January and February meetings have been moved one week because of the Monday holiday on our usual meeting day. January's meeting is on the 28th and February's meeting will be on the 25th.

-And the Winners Are...

Winners of the holiday decoration contest are:

***Most Traditional- 7315 Granby
Most Whimsical-7718 Nesbitt
Best Overall-7327 Elvin***

Runners-up were 517 Burleigh and 524 Grantham.

Judges found it difficult to decide among the many gaily decorated homes. Prizes will be presented to the winners.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balance			<u>\$1406.57</u>
+ funds received	\$165.00		
-funds disbursed		\$68.25	
Ending Balance			<u>\$1503.32</u>

WCCL MEMBERSHIP

Annual dues are \$5.00. Our dues' year runs from January 1 through December 31. If you are a continuing member and you have not renewed your membership for 2008, please submit your payment at a meeting or mail to the Treasurer, Ray Duron, at 530 Sterling Street, 23505. If you haven't joined yet, please consider doing so now.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

E-mail _____

Crime Prevention Tips to Prevent Theft from Autos

Theft from vehicles can occur anywhere there are vehicles present. This includes places where there are a large concentration of vehicles like shopping facilities, churches, sporting and recreation events, and restaurants, down to a single vehicle parked on a residential street.

Here are some tips which will hopefully keep you from being a victim of theft of your personal belongings from your vehicle.

- The best advice that can be given is to simply not leave anything in your vehicle in plain sight which you would not want taken.
- Always lock your doors even if you plan to be away from your vehicle for only a minute – such as running in to pay for gas.
- Park in well lighted areas.
- When shopping, always make sure to place purchases in the trunk and out of sight before going to the next shopping area to park.
- Try to maintain a “clutter free” vehicle.
- If you don’t have the luxury of parking your vehicle in the garage at night and have to leave it parked in the driveway or on the street in front of the house, make sure to remove the garage door opener. This is a key to your home!!
- Consider replacing standard license plate screws with theft deterrent screws available at auto parts stores.

Again, the best advice is to not leave anything in your vehicle, or at least in plain sight, that you would not want taken. Even the smallest most insignificant items left in plain view could result in a window being smashed which causes a great deal of expense and mess. If you will eliminate the opportunity, you will more than likely eliminate the crime.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Police Emergency	911
Police Non-Emergency	441-5610
Pace Officer	664-6921
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

WCCL Website

Don't forget to check our Website periodically. Martin Thomas, Jr. keeps it updated with our newsletters and links to other interesting items. And while you're at it, look at www.wardscornernow.com for news of the Wards Corner Partnership activities.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM OUR SECRETARY'S MINUTES

There is no Secretary's report this month since our December meeting was cancelled.

Your Civic League Board sends its wishes to you for a Healthy and Happy New Year.