



## WARDS CORNER CIVIC LEAGUE

# CROSSROADS

SERVING: COLONY POINT, HARMON GARDENS, MERRIDALE, PINEHURST,  
RESMERE, ROSE GARDENS, SUSSEX OF NORFOLK, VIRGINIA GARDENS AND  
WEXFORD TERRACE

January, 2009 Web site [www.Wardscorner.com](http://www.Wardscorner.com)

### CIVIC LEAGUE MEETING MONDAY

January 26, 2009  
6:45 PM

NORFOLK FITNESS and WELLNESS  
CENTER

Agenda  
Election of Officers  
To be announced

#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Jim English [ajim.english@gmail.com](mailto:ajim.english@gmail.com)

Jim's message will return next month.

### WCCL Accomplishments in 2008

This past year has been full of turmoil with economic, political, and defense concerns impacting our lives and those of our neighbors and other citizens. As we reflect on this previous year, your civic league board would like to highlight accomplishments that have occurred in our area and encourage your consistent support of our neighborhood and its programs.

Our monthly meetings have provided interesting programs: Traffic pattern changes, DePaul Hospital restructuring, discussions with City Council candidate and elected official briefing, real estate tax abatement and Real Estate Assessor, central library changes and "greening our environments".

Projects that our residents and leaders have lobbied for have been completed.

These include DePaul Hospital's restructuring which, although reduced to 124 beds, will allow the hospital to be

upgraded to better meet the needs of our community. The Alexis Apartments on West Little Creek Road have been torn down, helping to rid that neighborhood of many illegal activities. The first phase of the WestPort condos on Newport Avenue has been completed, providing attractive new housing options in our area. In addition, the city is attempting to institute "traffic calming" on Newport Avenue, and as an initial step has painted white lined parking areas from Little Creek Road to Kingsley Lane. Several more green neighborhood signs have been installed, and after six years of requests, brick crosswalks have been installed at the Little Creek/Granby intersections. A major program providing loans for property renovations to homeowners in the Denby Park, Oakdale Farms, and Monticello Village areas has been started.

Four times this year, several members of the civic league, led by Ray Duron, have met on a Saturday morning to pick up trash in our "Adopt-a-Spot" area on Ruthven Road from Little Creek to Terminal Boulevard.

Sue Classick has stepped up to fill the Vice President position for Newsletter Distribution, and the League honored our newsletter carriers at one of our meetings this year. These folks provide regular and consistent delivery of our monthly newsletter for 10 months each year, and their efforts are greatly appreciated. Our newsletter is also e-mailed to our membership list, and can be found on our Website at [www.Wardscorner.com](http://www.Wardscorner.com). In order to enhance communication among our civic league community, "i-neighbors" has been set up by Martin Thomas, Jr. To quote some information from their link, "... i-neighbors is a social networking service that connects residents of geographic neighborhoods. ...i-neighbors helps...neighbors to find each other,

organize, share information and work together to address local problems. ...goal is to help people create neighborhoods that are safer, better informed, more trusting, and better equipped to deal with local issues." Look at their link on our website, and consider joining.

These are just some signs of the accomplishments and revitalization efforts in our community.

**COPPER ALERT FOR NORFOLK RESIDENTS/BUSINESS OWNERS**

Copper has become a "hot item" because of its high re-sale value. This is to advise all residents/business owners to safeguard copper on your property-pipes, air conditioner components, etc. Older homes with crawl spaces are likely targets, particularly in areas where scrap metal operations are located. Suspects are victimizing vacant or "for sale" single family residences; however, they have also hit several occupied locations. Norfolk Police Department has identified more than 20 such thefts since June.

Crime watchers and all citizens who notice individuals pushing shopping carts loaded with copper or using other means to transport unusually large amounts of copper should call 441-5610 immediately.

**NOTE:** If you are interested in a Home or Business Security Survey for your property (within the City of Norfolk), contact the Crime Prevention Unit at 664-6901.

*News and Notes*

*If you or someone you know in our civic league is not receiving their newsletter, please contact Sue Classick at 489-2315.*

*Please note that our January and February meetings are postponed one week because of the holidays. They will be held on January 26 and February 23.*

**Election of Officers**

The annual election of persons to fill the offices on our Board of Directors will be held at our January Civic League meeting. All current board members have agreed to run again, and additional nominations will also be taken at the meeting.

**WCCL BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President	Jim English	423-7154
1 <sup>st</sup> VP/ Membership	Martin Thomas, Jr.	618-6468
2 <sup>nd</sup> VP/ Newsletter Distribution	Sue Classick	489-2315
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)

**IMPORTANT NUMBERS**

Police Emergency	911
Police Non-Emergency	441-5610
Pace Officer	831-3484
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

**-And the Winners Are...**

***Winners of the holiday decoration contest are:***

***Most Traditional-532 Timothy***

***Most Whimsical-534 Timothy***

***Best Overall-517 Burleigh***

***Runners-up were 7809 Sheryl and 7811 Ruthven.***

***Prizes will be presented to the winners.***

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Beginning Balance			\$1670.94
+ funds received	\$190.00		
-funds disbursed		\$104.42	
Ending Balance			\$1756.52

**WCCL MEMBERSHIP**

***Help your Civic League by paying your annual dues. Even if you're not able to attend meetings, please send a check for \$5.00 to Ray Duron (\$10/two household members). This helps support payments for our newsletter printing and other expenses that arise throughout the year. Our dues' year runs from January 1 through December 31. If you are a continuing member, it's time to think of renewing for 2009. Ray's address is 530 Sterling Street, 23505. If you haven't joined yet, please consider doing so now.***

<b>Name:</b> _____
<b>Address:</b> _____
<b>Phone #:</b> _____
<b>e-mail</b> _____

Wards Corner Civic League Minutes

Wards Corner Civic League met at 6:45PM on Monday, Dec. 15, 2008 in NFW Center. President Jim English opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. He welcomed Congressman Robert Scott, Sen. Dr. Ralph Northam, Del. Paula Miller and the President of Suburban Acres Civic League.

Barbara Barnes of Senior Services, Southwest VA., presented a pilot study which should determine livability in certain neighborhoods for the disabled and the elderly. In Wards Corner, this includes transportation and housing. The program will be formatted to wardscornernow.com for the entire Partnership input.

Our invited speaker was Congressman "Bobby" Scott, 3rd District, VA, (member of Committee of Judiciary,

Education and Labor, Budget, Ethics) who had not visited us since his election. He addressed issues of Inaugural tickets requests, juvenile justice and gang problems, accountability of our schools and No Child Left Behind program, taxes, spending, job creation, auto bailouts and provided federal budget charts. He answered questions of taxing oil profits, bankruptcy assets, low congressional approval rates, earmarks, CEO bonuses; relocation of aircraft carrier to FL. Pres. English asked if there were an economic stimulus package available to Wards Corner for infrastructure and private investment.

Election of Officers for 2009 will be held at the January meeting with nominations taken from the electorate.

The annual neighborhood Holiday Home Decoration contest will be judged on Sunday, Dec. 21. Prizes to winners will be awarded at the January meeting.

Sen. Dr Ralph Northam spoke briefly on the VA Budget and his concerns with health care, education, clean the bay and infrastructure. Del. Paula Miller was concerned with road congestion, transportation board, governmental cuts, and less financial aid for the arts. She announced a Town Hall meeting to be held on Monday, Jan. 5, 2009, from 6PM-8PM at NFW Center.

Our meeting was adjourned with holiday refreshments (thanks to Sue Classick) and socializing.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Joan Griffey, Sec'y

<p><b><i>Storm Water Pollution Prevention: Leaves and Yard Debris</i></b></p> <p>Pollution prevention is everyone's job. As a reminder, residents should never deposit leaves, grass clippings, and other debris in the curb and gutter or other storm water structures since storm water is not treated in the City of Norfolk. Actions such as these will add pollution to our natural waterways, as well as contribute to flooding problems in your neighborhood. In Norfolk, it is a violation to place or deposit anything other than storm water into the storm water system, including the street. This violation is a class one misdemeanor and is punishable by a substantial fine and possible jail time. Leaves and yard waste should be recycled by placing this debris in clear, plastic bags and setting them out on the curb during your regularly scheduled trash day. For further details regarding yard waste, visit the city web site at <a href="http://www.norfolk.gov/Publicworks/BulkyWaste.asp">http://www.norfolk.gov/Publicworks/BulkyWaste.asp</a></p>
---