



Wards Corner Civic League

Crossroads

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

September 2011

Web site www.wardscorner.com

CIVIC LEAGUE MEETING

MONDAY

**September 19, 2011
6:45 PM**

**NORFOLK FITNESS and WELLNESS
CENTER**

Marcus Jones invited

Norfolk City Manager

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Neighbors,

The summer of 2011 is now almost in the history books as it has once again sped by very rapidly. I hope your summer was enjoyable and relaxing. Now that we have survived one hurricane named Irene, one earthquake, and an intermittent barrage of smoke from the continuing fire in the Great Dismal Swamp, I hope you are ready to begin the fall activities. Let's hope we don't have any more hurricanes this season. With fall fast approaching, school is in session and the Wards Corner Civic League will begin holding its regular meetings again beginning with our meeting at 6:45PM on September 19th to be held at the Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center. While we have not had a meeting in two months, our board members and members of our civic league have been busy working on issues to make our area better. This newsletter reflects some of these issues and concerns that we have been involved in and working on.

Over the summer two major accomplishments were realized that impact all of us.

First, we finally reached an agreement on the design and location of the new sewer pump station that will be located on the property of the Wellness Center. After several meetings, including those at our regular

civic league meetings and others following, a final compromise was reached. We wish to thank Kristen Lentz, Director of Utilities and her staff for working with us so closely in reaching this compromise. They all deserve a healthy sincere thank you as they represent the best in our city government. The new pump station will be located just inside the entrance road to the Wellness Center to the north and slightly inward of the road. Its design will be brick and as much as possible blend in with the architecture of the nearby homes across the street and neighborhood. The next steps for final approval will be a review and approval by the Norfolk Design Review Committee and final approval by the Norfolk Planning Commission. Once these approvals are met, construction on the pump station could begin this fall. This of course is in preparation of the new sewer lines that will be placed throughout our neighborhood beginning with the streets of Burleigh, Maycox and North Shore. This construction will also begin late this fall.

Secondly, the city has finally agreed to start acquiring property in the Denby Park/Texas Street area of Wards Corner. This area, of course, has been the major source of crime in our neighborhood. In accordance with the 2004 Wards Corner Comprehensive plan, the City is purchasing property in Denby Park.

As quoted in the Virginia Pilot and the Wards Corner Now webiste.

"City Council members and the Wards Corner Task Force have partnered on the need to acquire properties within the Denby Park neighborhood, specifically the Texas Streets section. The acquisition is part of the city's plan to build safe, healthy neighborhoods that will sustain future generations.

Total units being acquired are 68 apartment units located in seven buildings and the grounds. The parcels include 316, 320, 324, 336, 340, 360 and 362 San Antonio Boulevard.

My best to you,

Membership

Please join your civic league. Annual membership is a bargain for \$5.00 (\$10/two household members).

One hundred and one households in our area have paid their dues.

Send your check to Ray Duron at 530 Sterling Street, 23505. Our dues' year runs from January 1 through December 31.

Name: _____
Address: _____ _____
Phone: _____
E-mail: _____

TREASURER'S REPORT

Beginning Balance			\$2480.99
+ funds received	\$10.00		
- funds disbursed		\$82.95	
Ending Balance			\$2,408.04

Wards Corner Civic League Minutes

June 20, 2011

Wards Corner Civic League met on Monday, June 20, 2011 at 6:45PM in NF&WCenter. President Jim English led us in The Pledge of Allegiance after welcoming members.

Officer Odell Davis reported 2 burglaries, 6 larcenies, several acts of vandalism. Questions from members included the break-in on the 7300 block of Colony Point, brick thrown at house window on another street, info regarding death on Cromwell Pky. (considered a murder but no further info available), and increased activity late evening in 100 block of E. Little Creek (Vice and Narcotic has a presence in the area).

Marcus Calabrese, member of the Board of Directors of the Food Bank, spoke about the Emergency Food **WCCL BOARD OF DIRECTORS** Assistance Program, Kids' Café Program, and National Hunger Action Month (September). Additional info can be found at foodbankonline.org.

Rick Dempsey, Civil Engineer from the City Dep't. of Utilities, presented information regarding the pump station to be built at the NFWC. He requested a list of "wants" from League members. Suggestions were to have further discussions regarding the location, size, and architect's drawings, hopefully in early July.

Final speaker was Stanley Stein, Deputy City Manager, who spoke about the Neighbors Building Neighborhoods program. The premise is to build a strong nucleus in neighborhoods through programs such as Neighborhood Watch, Code Enforcement, Beautification, etc. He also spoke about potential Wards Corner developments: parking lot to service Titustown Visual Arts Center; discussions with outside developers to purchase Farm Fresh and Kroger areas; Perry property-negotiations continue to buy property and build a "Town Center" with garages attached to retail, office and living spaces, revised driveways; Dalis property-conversations continue; land acquisition -\$2.75 mil set aside for Denby Park purchases (approx. \$20 mil require to purchase all property in Denby Park); economic development in the city-Ford plant sold to plastic manufacturer, and city is courting other environmental businesses.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Barbara Ross recording for Joan Griffey, Secretary

WCCL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Jim English	423-7154
1 st VP/ Membership	Martin Thomas, Jr.	618-6468
2 nd 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)

NEWS AND NOTES

Your help is needed to pick up litter at our Adopt-A-Spot area (Ruthven Road and W. Little Creek Road) on Saturday, September 24 at 8 AM. It only takes about an hour or two, and makes an impressive difference in the area. In case of bad weather, the clean-up will be cancelled. Questions?? Call Ray Duron at 423-4337. Gloves, trash bags and safety vests are provided.

Thanks to Volunteers

We would like to thank those faithful newsletter deliverers who are returning for this next year.

It means a lot to many of our neighbors to receive this monthly paper.

And, More Thanks

Our Civic League would also like to extend special thanks to Senator Ralph Northam who donated 100 flags for display in our area on the 4th of July.

Fine-FREE days at Norfolk Public Libraries

Have you found a book that's overdue at the library? Now's your chance to return it - free of charge –and also replace your lost library card for free, during September 16-30. Call 664-7328, ext. 352, with questions.

You can also drop off non-perishable food items for the Foodbank at any library location.

SEPTEMBER HOME TIPS

**From the Virginian Pilot
January 2011 and December 2010**

Take a look at your landscape with an eye toward safety. Your trees grew this spring and summer. Are they crowding power lines or brushing against your roof? Contact a professional to trim them.

Check for plants growing too close to the foundation. They can encourage insect damage, weaken the foundation or create a fire hazard. Greenery is good-but not growing on the roof, bricks or siding. Ivy growing up the walls may offer a pleasant effect, but it can speed decay by damaging the mortar on masonry and also damaging screens. Even after it is ripped off the walls, it can be tough to get rid of the track left by the vine's rootlets.

And as loath as we are to admit it, cooler weather is just around the corner. Caulk windows and doors, add weather stripping and new sweeps on doors, and check to see if you've got enough insulation in your attic or crawl spaces and that loose insulations isn't blocking vents.

Primeplus

This is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for adults aged 50+. Dues are \$40 per year. It is located at the Fitness and Wellness Center on Newport Avenue. It offers over 50 classes monthly, with courses such as woodworking, exercise/fitness, painting, quilting, and ceramics; and games such as bingo, canasta, bridge, and Scrabble. There are also lunchtime meals available for a nominal fee daily, Monday through Friday.