



## Meeting Location Change for April!

Join us on  
April 13, 2009  
at the **Workforce  
Development  
Center** (next to  
Kroger) at 6:30 p.m.  
**Doors open at 6  
p.m. for  
refreshments**  
Guest speaker  
Delegate Kenneth  
Alexander will give us  
a *Legislative update*

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## Message from the President



With the wreath removed from the door and packed away with the season, I was just beginning to feel myself emerge from the excitement of the holidays -- you know, those really demanding weeks strung together with in-laws, awkward office parties, frantic gifting, chaotic drivers, and...lest we forget the *pleasant* shopping experiences. The whole adventure can be so exhausting that the *return-to-normal phase* feels like the *real* holiday. Well, I recently found myself boomeranged back into those holiday emotions that were left behind after ye *Auld Lang Syne* had become an *old song sang*. Let me explain.

This past November, (on behalf of the SACL) I had the privilege of presenting our neighborhood elementary school with a holiday gift that helped provide Thanksgiving for several families in our community. Well, in the mailbox today I received a delightful *thank you* presentation addressed to the Civic League, with pictures of smiling faces and signed by many of the families whose lives we touched. Reading it, I was immediately transported back into the sentiment of the holidays and the essence of humanity.

I'm very proud to be involved in this organization with you, and pray we continue to make a positive impact in our community. It might come by way of pulling together to accomplish a task of some sort, or through the opportunities we find to share and enjoy our time together leisurely. Whatever the occasion, I think it is appropriate to reflect on the following quote (also posted on our web homepage):

***"The universal brotherhood of man is our most precious possession."***

*Mark Twain*

Your Civic League continues striving to be a proactive and effective organization. We're growing in many ways and welcoming new neighbors each month. This shows that the residents of Suburban Acres believe that *together*, we create and keep the prestige of Suburban Acres living. To those of you joining us, and to those who have been with us through the years, thank you for your interest and contribution to this neighborhood. As the Board of Directors works to steer this organization, we strongly encourage your feedback on what is of interest to you. Are there specific speakers that would benefit this community, events we can organize to bring us together, or issues that require our united voice? These are the reasons the SACL exist.

I hope you find the newsletter this month to be both entertaining and informational. There is a talented and generous group of volunteers who take this from concept - to your front porch. My sincere appreciation to all involved! Well...enjoy, and be well.

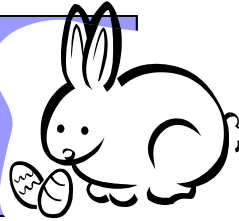
Buzzing with anticipation for spring,

*Timothy M. Fox*

(Continued on page 2)

## Suburban Acres Civic League

### Meeting Minutes for March 12, 2009



Meeting called to order at 6:40 p.m.

WELCOME to new neighbors and league members.

#### Neighborhood Watch

JoDee Cook announced that we will recognize the school crossing guard with a proclamation at the May Civic League meeting.

Denby Park had window decals made that replicate the Neighborhood Watch signs. Our civic league is looking into having decals made up for our neighborhood. We will encourage neighbors to post them on doors, windows or autos.

#### PACE Report

Officer Bev Hubbard reported crime stats covering the period of February 1 through March 9. There were two vandalisms (Midfield and Granby Park); three automobile larcenies (E. Kenmore, Carl and Midfield); two residential burglaries (Midfield and Woodfin). The hot item consistently being taken is GPS systems.

Two arrests have been made for various burglaries and they hope to connect those arrests to burglaries from our neighborhood.

#### Crime Prevention and Residential Security

Officers Jodi Kowalski and Sandy Parker reported there is an effort to get all neighborhoods involved in the Neighborhood Watch program. Report any suspicious activity (call 911). Neighborhood Watch pamphlets were provided. The police department offers residential and business security surveys *free of charge*.

#### Guest Speaker

Rick Henn, Senior Project Manager, Norfolk Department of Development gave a Power Point presentation on the light rail project and citywide development projects. The light rail should be completed by the end of 2010.

#### Treasurer's Report

Bruce Larson reported February revenue of \$961, expenses \$135.75, with an ending bank balance of \$1,527.92. The Mermaid Fund stands at \$58.

#### Committee Reports

Membership: As the weather gets warmer be on the lookout for our membership committee going door to door!

Communications: Our new web address is [www.Suburban23505.com](http://www.Suburban23505.com). The newsletter will continue to be posted on our web site.

We are considering posting a neighborhood trading post in the newsletter.

Meetings, Programs, Special Events: Suburban Acres Great American Cleanup event is scheduled for April 18<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to noon. We will meet at the Tinee Giant at Thole and Virginian at 10 a.m. Refreshments, gloves and pickup bags are supplied

The April 13<sup>th</sup> civic league meeting to be held at the Norfolk Workforce Center next to Kroger. Suburban Park Elementary will be closed for spring break.

Future meeting speakers and topics: Gardening, security systems technology, Delegate Alexander, Commissioner of Revenue Sharon McDonald. Contact Pearl Windle if you have suggestions for speakers or events.

#### Old Business

Paper Street cleaning/mowing will begin soon.

The No Left Turn sign at Little Creek and Virginian has been removed.

Thole Street medians have been planted. Unfortunately some plants were stolen and will have to be replaced.

We are continuing to address speeding issues on Thole Street.

#### New Business

March Yard Of The Month winner is Mike King, 208 Forsythe Street.

We are considering construction of a dog park at the city owned lot at Parkdale and Suburban Parkway.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.



#### Presidents Message

(Continued from page 1)

Ps. Disregard that piece in the last newsletter about *the mythical snow*...I guess it *did* snow after all. My son actually built his first snowman. It was about 6 inches tall...but it...was...a snowman. Check it out on the webpage, and email us your pictures!  
[www.suburban23505.com](http://www.suburban23505.com)

**And an additional note:**

**Please join us in April to hear a legislative update from Delegate Alexander—having just returned from the recently concluded General Assembly.**

**The April meeting will be held at the Work Force Development Center (next to Kroger) due to the school's closing for Spring Break.**



## Of Traffic Signs and Medians...

Thanks to John Stevenson and City of Norfolk's Traffic Engineering Department crew who finally made it through our neighborhood. The "new" signs and orange flags have been removed from the not so new stop signs...and here's a big one...the stop signs at Virginian and East Kenmore are gone. And with the help of our Suburban Acres neighbors, the "No Left Turn" sign at Little Creek Road and Virginian has been removed, as well.


*The newly landscaped medians on Thole Street make for a beautiful first impression when approaching the neighborhood from Tidewater and Granby Street. Special thanks to Parks and Urban Forestry who did the landscaping. Job well done.*



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**Robert J. McCabe, Sheriff**  
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Norfolk, VA 23510

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Fax: (757) 441-2531  
E-Mail: [robert.mccabe@norfolk.gov](mailto:robert.mccabe@norfolk.gov)  
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## Civic League and Community News

For more news and events  
visit our website  
[www.suburban23505.com](http://www.suburban23505.com)

### **Suburban Acres Great American Cleanup Event**



Join us on Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to noon as our civic league participates in the Great American Cleanup. We will

be cleaning up the area from Tinee Giant to Tidewater Drive. This area is one of the gateways to our community and deserves some extra attention. It is beneficial to keep the community clean to send a message of pride in our surroundings. Refreshments, gloves and pickup bags are supplied. So, come and bring your family!! Enjoy the feelings of neighborly companionship! Every volunteer is also eligible for a prize to be awarded by Keep Norfolk Beautiful in June. Contact Susan Boice at 531-0487 or email: [codyate@yahoo.com](mailto:codyate@yahoo.com) or check the website at [www.suburban23505.com](http://www.suburban23505.com) for information.

### **2009 Great American Cleanup Events**



Electronics Recycling Day is Saturday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at WHRO parking lot. Bring in your 'technotrash'—cell phones, computers, audio equipment and more to be disposed in an earth friendly manner! Call about advance drop off

times and locations at 441-1347 or go to [www.norfolkbeautiful.org](http://www.norfolkbeautiful.org)

*Mark your calendar for these upcoming events:*

Earth Day Cleanup—Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m. to Noon

Clean the Bay Day—Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m. to Noon

For details and volunteer information, call 441-1347 or go to [www.norfolkbeautiful.org](http://www.norfolkbeautiful.org)

### **Fire Safety Reminder—Change Smoke Detector Batteries Now**

During Daylight Savings Time, Norfolk Fire-Rescue wants to remind everyone to change the battery in their smoke detectors. Additionally, Norfolk Fire-Rescue would like to remind all Norfolk residents about its **free Smoke Detector Program**. Any Norfolk resident in need of a smoke detector for their home should contact Norfolk Fire-Rescue at (757)

664-6604 and leave a message with contact information. Norfolk Fire-Rescue will arrange to have a smoke detector installed free of charge. It's also a good time to review these fire safety tips with your family:

- Prepare AND PRACTICE a family escape plan
- Keep all combustibles at least 3 feet from any heat source
- When cooking, never leave the kitchen and keep something in your hand (spoon, pot-holder, etc..) to remind you that you are cooking
- Wear close to the body clothing while cooking
- Keep clutter to a minimum everywhere in your home

### **Foster/Adoptive Parent Orientations**

The next Foster/Adoptive Parent Orientations will be held 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, April 21, 2009. If you have ever considered becoming a foster parent or adopting a child, please contact Nancy Brock with the Resource Development Team at 757-664-6079 or [nancy.brock@norfolk.gov](mailto:nancy.brock@norfolk.gov). For additional online information about foster and adoptive parenting go to [www.norfolk.gov/humanservices/foster\\_care.asp](http://www.norfolk.gov/humanservices/foster_care.asp).

### **March Yard Of The Month Winner**

Congratulations to Mike King for his beautiful landscaping and wonderful curb appeal at 208 Forsythe Street. Flora, Yard of the Month Mermaid, will live among the foliage of the King flowerbed for the month of March. Thank you, Mike, for helping to make Suburban Acres a beautiful neighborhood!

### **Wanted: Your Delicious Home Recipes**

Your neighbors are waiting to try your mouth watering recipes! We will print your entries in the newsletter or on the website as space permits. Bring them to the next meeting or e-mail recipes to [suburbanacres@gmail.com](mailto:suburbanacres@gmail.com).

### **Public Invited to Commission for Persons with Disabilities Monthly Meetings**

The Mayor's Commission for Persons with Disabilities is inviting interested or concerned residents to attend its monthly meetings to weigh in on important issues

*(Continued on page 7)*

## Home and Tax Assistance Available to Norfolk Residents

### If you are 65 years of age or disabled...

Seniors and disabled residents who have an income of less than \$67,000 per year and a net worth of less than \$350,000 can have part of their real estate tax relieved. The amount of tax relief is based on a sliding income scale. To be eligible, you must be 65 years of age or totally and permanently disabled, must live in the property to be exempted, and combined income of owners and all relatives living in the home cannot exceed \$67,000 per year. Residents must apply every year for tax relief prior to June 1. Application forms can be obtained from the Commissioner of the Revenue's office on the 1st floor of City Hall, or at various satellite sites during the filing season. Call 441-1502 for dates and times.

### If you want to appeal your real estate assessment...

Residents who want to question their assessments can first contact the Assessor's Office. They may also formally appeal to the Real Estate Assessment Board of Appeals. Residents must file an appeal prior to May 31. Call the Assessor's Office at 664-4732 for information.

### If you want to rehabilitate your home...

The Tax Abatement Program for Residential Rehabilitation, administered by the Department of Neighborhood Preservation, offers taxpayers an opportunity to improve residential, commercial or industrial structures and not pay full taxes on those improvements for 14 years. Increases in assessed value will not be recognized for taxes for the first 10 years, but will be recognized for taxes on a sliding scale in years 11 through 15 following the start of the tax abatement. Applications must be received prior to start of work on the project. Contact the Real Estate Assessor's Office at 664-4732 for more information.

**BUSINESS**  
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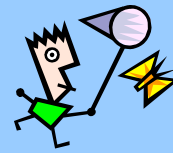
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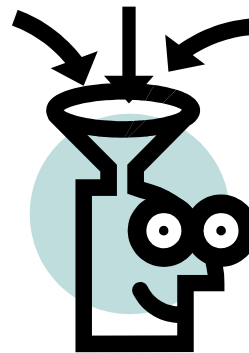
OWNER



## It's Spring! Word Search

S	E	F	A	P	R	I	L	I	S	A
T	C	L	U	K	C	M	O	R	P	D
E	C	O	N	S	H	O	W	E	R	S
W	O	W	T	T	O	B	A	G	I	F
A	B	E	A	T	C	U	H	G	N	Y
R	E	R	M	O	O	N	U	O	G	P
T	A	S	E	A	L	N	N	B	M	A
C	S	U	N	D	A	Y	T	O	Y	S
A	T	R	A	U	T	E	S	A	N	T
P	E	E	P	S	E	S	E	T	I	E
C	R	D	H	I	O	N	J	I	L	L
E	G	N	U	L	N	P	E	L	L	I
L	I	A	B	A	S	K	E	T	A	C

Easter	Bunny	April	Basket
Egg	Flowers	Showers	Peeps
Hunt	Sunday	Cottontail	Chocolate
Spring	Blossom	Pastel	



## Fun Facts:

### Where did "April Fools" Come From?

There are several theories about the origin of April Fools. According to National Geographic, the most popular theory is that

France changed its calendar in

the 1500's so that the New Year would begin in January to match the Roman calendar instead of the start of spring in late March or early April. However, word of the change traveled slowly, and many people in rural areas continued to celebrate the New Year in the spring.

These country dwellers became known as "April fools."

Source: <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2008/03/080328-april-fools.html>



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*Player 2*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Player 3*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Player 4*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Total Amt. Enclosed \$*

Return form by May 20, 2009 with check payable to *Suburban Acres Civic League*, 460 Suburban Pkwy, Norfolk, VA 23505  
Tournament play is open to all -- Incomplete foursomes will be matched with singles.

If you're interested in merchandise or financial sponsorship for the Suburban Acres Civic League Golf Tournament, call Tim Fox at 757-338-0439.

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## 2009 Civic League

### Meeting and Events Calendar

E-mail [suburbanacres@gmail.com](mailto:suburbanacres@gmail.com) for more information

<u>April 13</u>	<u>Civic League Meeting</u>
<u>April 18</u>	<u>Great American Cleanup at Tinee Giant</u>
<u>May 11</u>	<u>Civic League Meeting</u>
<u>May 30</u>	<u>Suburban Acres Golf Outing</u>
<u>June 8</u>	<u>Civic League Meeting</u>
<u>July 4</u>	<u>Fourth of July Parade</u>
<u>July 13</u>	<u>Civic League Meeting</u>
<u>August 10</u>	<u>Civic League Meeting</u>
<u>September 14</u>	<u>Civic League Meeting</u>
<u>October 12</u>	<u>Civic League Meeting</u>
<u>October 24</u>	<u>Fall Harvest Celebration</u>
<u>November 9</u>	<u>Civic League Meeting</u>
<u>December 14</u>	<u>Civic League Meeting</u>

(Civic League and Community News continued from page 4)

affecting the disabled community. Meetings are held the third Thursday of every month from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the Norfolk Fitness and Wellness Center, 7300 Newport Ave. For more information, call Chairwoman Shirley Confino-Rehder at (757) 625-0969.

### Seniors Art Forum

Seniors Art Forum meets at 2 p.m. on the first Saturday of every month for a tour, discussion, and refreshments. No reservations are necessary for individuals, but please call (757) 333-6268 for group reservations. Cost is included with Museum admission.

### Contemporary Glass Among the Classics at the Chrysler Museum of Art

This exhibition features glass installations from four contemporary artists: Katherine Gray, Stephen Knapp, Karen LaMonte, and Beth Lipman. Focusing on each artist's approach to the versatile material of glass, this exhibition will present new works inspired by the Chrysler's collection and will be featured in galleries alongside objects from the Museum's collection. Exhibition runs April 26 through July 19, 2009.

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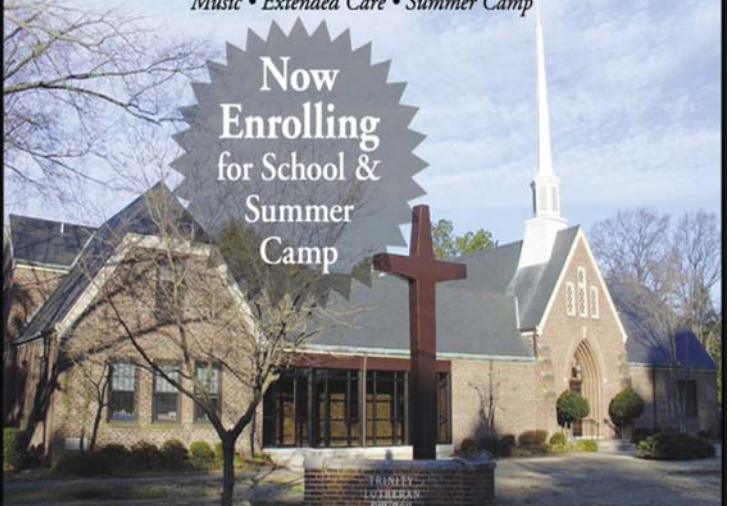
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### Suburban Acres Civic League Officers

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sacfpresident@gmail.com

**Pearl Windle, Vice President**  
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Pearlygirl1@cox.net

**Dolores Cloud, Secretary**  
583-0250  
dolores.cloud@norfolk.gov

**Bruce Larson, Treasurer**  
761-0192  
larsonontheroad@msn.com

### Board of Directors

**Doug Barnhart** 480-9513  
**Susan Boice** 531-0487  
**JoDee Cook** 587-7918  
**Eric Heard** 963-6996

**E-mail the Civic League**  
suburbanacres@gmail.com

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beverly.hubbard@norfolk.gov

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831-3484

**Non Emergency Police**  
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**Code Enforcements** 664-6532  
**Norfolk Cares** 664-6510

**Neighborhood Watch  
Coordinator**  
**JoDee Cook** 587-7918

**Visit our website at**  
**www.suburban23505.com**

## Announcements

Send announcements to  
suburbanacres@gmail.com



**Chris Clagett** of 7006 Kirby Crescent returned to the US and family and friends on February 18<sup>th</sup> after a eight month deployment to Baghdad. Welcome back, Chris and thank you for serving our country!!



## BEING AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF YOUR COMMUNITY HAS NEVER BEEN AS IMPORTANT AS IT IS TODAY.

We need your involvement in the Suburban Acres Civic League. The larger our membership, the louder our voice will be heard! Don't wait, join today!

Individual Membership is \$5.00 and Family Membership (two individuals) is \$10.00. Make checks payable to "Suburban Acres Civic League". Dues are now payable for 2009.

### Suburban Acres Civic League Membership Form 2009

☐ Individual \$5.00

☐ Family \$10.00

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print and include both names for family membership)

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to **Suburban Acres Civic League**. Bring to the next meeting or mail this form to Bruce Larson, Treasurer, Suburban Acres Civic League, 574 Thole St. Norfolk, VA 23505. **And thank you for your support!**

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