

Elections!

Please join us on
Monday, November
9th at the next
Suburban Acres
Civic League
meeting to elect
officers and board
members for 2010.
Doors open at 6 pm
for refreshments
and socializing.
Meeting at 6:30 pm
at Suburban Park
Elementary School.

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Message from the President

Sometimes surprising, but always something special are the first words from the *mouths of babes*. Before they could speak, we taught both of our children to use basic sign language; and one of the first and certainly the most expressed by both of them was the sign for "thank you" -- with "cookie" as a close second. The first is achieved by placing the fingertips (palm inward) near the lips, and then extending the hand outward and down in the direction of the one you are thanking...as if physically giving the word 'thanks'. Now smile.

My daughter has an adaptation of this that is simply demonstrated: *palm on a cutely chubby cheek, angelic face on, gaze set to the cookie*. And now she accompanies the sign with a toddler accented "dank-ew, Papa." I love it!

It's an expression we couldn't use enough when delivered sincerely. So at the least, we've dedicated one day each year to being *thankful*. With any luck, we are mindful and humble enough to reflect daily on the many things in our lives for which we are grateful.

Three years ago this November, our family became your neighbors. And to this day, every time I turn onto Suburban Parkway, I quietly say "Thank You." Having such a quality neighborhood to call home is invaluable. Decades of care have gone into making this, and decades ahead will require our careful attention to sustain and grow it. Thanks to all of you, and especially those who give tirelessly to making Suburban Acres the gem that it is.

Looking back, it's been another fine year for the SACL. The meetings and events have been well attended, showing the sincere interest in our community. We've had some very interesting guest speakers throughout the year, and each of them have confirmed the impressive productivity and participation of our group. It's awesome to be involved with people who share the passion for enjoying and enhancing *our home*.

This Thanksgiving, I hope you find that you have much to be grateful for; not necessarily things, but the true rewards you hold dearly. You know them when they reach in unexpectedly and evoke your deepest appreciation. And you respond, "Thank You."

Happy Thanksgiving!

Timothy M. Fox

Coming up at the December 14th meeting...

Join us for a special year end review and recognition party for the members and volunteers who make our civic league successful.

Don't miss the food, refreshments, and camaraderie!



Sam "Mickey" Adams enjoyed the SACL Harvest Celebration on October 24th, along with dozens of neighbors of all ages. See page 6 for details.

Photo TF

**Thanksgiving
Food Drive
Contributions
Requested...
Details Page 4**



Suburban Acres Civic League

Meeting Minutes for October 12, 2009

Meeting Called to Order at 6:35 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Neighborhood Watch

Rob Lain spoke to the general meeting about the need to keep on top of the crime activity in our community. He is going to use the street captains to reach out to the community with the intention of opening dialogue concerning our communication about crime and the monthly crime statistics. Since June 1 to present, 28 incidents have been recorded; 12 have been committed since September 1st to October 12.

Officer Jackson spoke about calling if there are any signs of crime being committed in our neighborhood. Data does not appear if there is not a call into the police. The GPS is the #1 stolen article.

Committee Updates

Communications

Bruce Larson, our newsletter editor and treasurer, has asked for someone to learn how to put the newsletter together. Bruce is willing to train anyone that is interested. Call 761-0192.

Membership

At last count there were 88 households that are members of the civic league. About 500 newsletters are printed monthly and delivered to all homes in Suburban Acres.

Events

Our next event is the 2nd Annual Harvest Celebration. It will be held at the BBB (Better Business Bureau) building, 586 Virginian Avenue (behind Tinee Giant), on Saturday, October 24th from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Games, refreshments, arts and a Chili Cook Off are just a few of the fun things happening. Call Susan Boice (531-0487) to volunteer.

Community Liaison

JoDee Cook spoke about the EARNN incentive to get citizens and community organizations to work together by increasing recycling and environmental efforts. By participating, civic leagues can earn points that earn cash for the civic league.

Treasurer Report

For September, the civic league had revenues of \$117.00 and expenses totaling \$115.50, ending with a checking account balance of \$1,272.73.

Old Business

General Membership voted unanimously to approve the September 2009 Meeting Minutes as published.

Suburban Acres Civic League Constitution and By-Laws were signed by the Board. The document can be viewed on the SACL web site and printed copies were available at the meeting.

The Board unanimously voted to table the Dog Park Initiative until a future date.

The 2010 Nominating Committee consists of Dee Adams (353-1506), Chair, and committee members Sue Bastinelli (588-0388), and Steve Collins (416-6158). At our November meet-

ing, the Nominating Committee candidates will be presented to the general membership and additional nominations can be submitted from the floor. Tim Fox will be running again as President, JoDee Cook, Audrey Renn, Rob Lain and Jeb Clarke will be running for board of directors. Please contact any member of the committee if interested in a board position.

New Business

SACL is again partnering with Suburban Park Elementary School in efforts to raise funds and food for the holidays. Please donate for this great cause.

Announcements

The Yard of the Month Mermaid will be taking a winter vacation for some much needed rest and repairs. She will return again in the Spring.

Next meeting of the Federation of Civic Leagues will be held on November 12, at 7:30 pm at Lake Taylor Hospital in the cafeteria. All are welcome.

Wards Corner Civic League will host a forum for the November 3rd election candidates. It will be held at the Wellness Center on October 19th at 6:45 pm

Elyse Kalfus will host a Meet and Greet for incumbent Commissioner Of Revenue and Kenny Alexander. It will be held Sunday, October 25th from 3:00 to 5:00.

Dennis Mori is looking for someone interested in selling advertising for the newsletter. If interested, call Dennis at 761-0197.

From the Floor

Eric Heard spoke about our civic league's involvement in the Norfolk Federation of Civic Leagues. He sees great potential in the organization. He felt that there should be an even greater effort to enlist more civic leagues.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:45

Respectfully submitted for approval,
Eric Heard, Secretary

2009 Civic League Meeting and Events Calendar

Mark your calendars!

November 9 Civic League Meeting

December 14 Civic League Meeting

Civic League meetings are held at Suburban Park Elementary School, 310 Thole Street, unless otherwise noted. Check the newsletter or visit our website at www.suburban23505.com for additional information.

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By Karen Mayne

Hello! My name is Karen Mayne, your neighbor on Suburban Arch. I have volunteered to write an environmental column about the Suburban Acres neighborhood. I hope this will be another way for us to work together to keep our neighborhood beautiful – by thinking a little about the natural world with which we share our space.

Fall is the time when trees are starting their winter hibernation period – just as we do when the weather gets cold. As the temperatures drop, so do the leaves and pine needles. We can make sure we don't contribute to the filling in of the Lafayette River by keeping those leaves and limbs away from the shoreline of creeks and marshes. And, we shouldn't rake leaves into the gutters, where they can clog our storm drains and get into our creeks. Leaves and pine straw make excellent (and free) mulch if you use the bagger on your lawnmower. Or, you can just run over the leaves several times with your lawnmower and mulch them right back into the lawn, where they will add nitrogen to the soil.

Many of us become "fescue farmers" this time of year, as we fertilize and use herbicides and pesticides on our lawns. According to the *Bay Journal*, the largest "crop" in the Chesapeake Bay watershed isn't corn or soybeans – it's turf grass! More than 3.8 million acres of grass receive 215 million pounds of nitrogen fertilizer and 19 million pounds of pesticides each year in the Bay region. Used properly, these chemicals keep our lawns pretty and green. But if used improperly, they can end up in the Lafayette River, or harm good insects, birds, and the bees that pollinate so many plants. Consider whether you can tolerate a few weeds and bugs. And, like all good farmers, we can get free advice on lawn management from a variety of sources. The Virginia Cooperative Extension Service from Virginia Tech provides free advice on gardening, trees and lawns at www.ext.vt.edu. For a small fee, they will analyze your soil and give recommendations for the proper amount of fertilizer or lime to use. Our local extension agent is Lynette Swanson and she can be reached at 683-2816 or lswanson@vt.edu. The Norfolk Master Gardeners also provide free advice through their website www.norfolkmg.org. Local garden centers often give free lawn seminars in the fall and spring.

You can reach Karen at 587-1287 or by email at KarenLMayne@aol.com

Darla Messalle, Independent Consultant

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Civic League and Community News

For more news and events visit our website at www.suburban23505.com

SACL Supports the Suburban Park Elementary Thanksgiving Food Drive

Suburban Park Elementary is organizing a food drive with the goal to make food baskets to ensure needy families in their school have a feast to celebrate this Thanksgiving. The Civic League is supporting this food drive, and we're asking our community to help out. **We will collect canned goods at the November 9th Civic League meeting** and we will be making additional cash donations as well. If you would like to make a contribution, please email the Civic League at suburbanacres@gmail.com, or call Tim Fox at 338-0439.

EARNN: Environmental Awards for Recycling Launches 2009-2010 Program

The enhanced EARNN program rewards Norfolk's civic leagues for efforts in "green" practices such as recycling, litter prevention, sustainability and energy conservation, and storm water management. Additional bonus points are available in categories such as youth engagement, graffiti and illegal sign removal, and newsletter articles on "green" topics.

The city, through Keep Norfolk Beautiful, is sponsoring this program in an effort to increase curbside recycling and responsible environmental stewardship throughout the city. The program is based on a point system that earns cash rewards for registered civic leagues. **Suburban Acres could earn cash rewards of up to \$750 through this program.** These rewards will be distributed in June for accumulated points earned from November 1, 2009 through May 31, 2010.

Suburban Acres Civic League Board of Directors is actively working on this program, and additional information will be available on the website and in the newsletter in the coming months. Questions about the Suburban Acres EARNN program can be directed to board member JoDee Cook at 587-7918.

For additional information, call *Keep Norfolk Beautiful* at 441-1347 or email susan.ash@norfolk.gov.

"Norfolk Perspectives" TV Show Features SACL President Tim Fox In November

Tim Fox received an invitation to represent Suburban Acres Civic League on the **Norfolk Perspectives** TV show with Bob Batcher. The interview will be taped on November 4th, and will air daily for about two weeks starting Sunday, November 8th at 8 am and 8 pm on Norfolk cable channel 48.

Norfolk Perspectives keeps viewers up-to-date on the things that make Norfolk a great place to live, work, learn and play. This thirty-minute magazine show is an information resource for Norfolkiens, offering viewers information about government services, programs and initiatives, community news and local activities.

Have you had Illegal Sign Removal training?

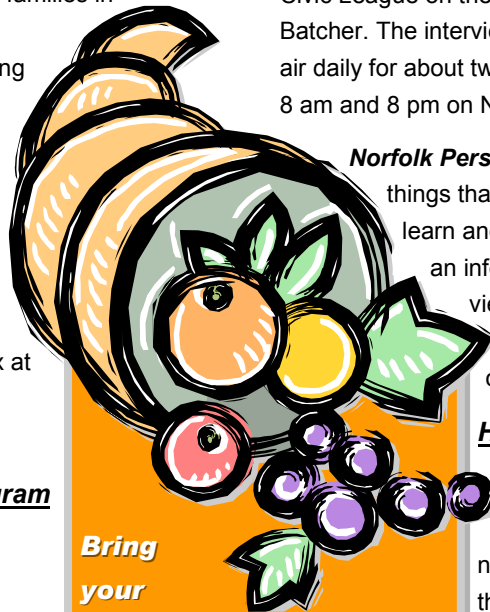
The new EARNN program rewards our neighborhood for residents who have taken this training. If you've been trained, let us know so your training counts. Please call JoDee Cook at 587-7918.

Beginning November, It's Easier to Get Rid of Electronics and Household Hazardous Waste

Getting rid of old electronics and household hazardous waste will be easier beginning November 21 as Norfolk opens a new facility of the Division of Waste Management for proper disposal of these items. In the last

year, over 130,000 pounds of electronics were collected in Norfolk through special events.

The facility, located at 1176 Pineridge Road, will be open Monday through Saturday from 10 am to 2 pm. There are still a few restricted items, such as refrigerators, microwaves, and smoke detectors, but other electronics such as TVs, computers, CD's and DVD's, batteries and household hazardous waste can be dropped off at the site. For information, log on to www.norfolk.gov/publicworks.waste or call 441-5813 or 441-1347.



Bring your donations of canned goods to the November 9th meeting and help Suburban Park Elementary School Food Drive make this Thanksgiving brighter for our neighbors in need.

(Continued from page 4)

Greater Wards Corner Partnership

GWCP will not meet in November due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, but the members of the Partnership will continue their work on the revitalization effort just the same. We wish everyone a happy and safe Thanksgiving with family and friends.

Norfolk Federation of Civic Leagues

The NFCL meeting is Thursday, November 12, 2009 at the Lakewood Hospital Cafeteria at 7:30 p.m. The guest speaker will be Larry Richardson, ReEnergy President, who will speak on new proposal revisions.

Norfolk's 25TH Annual Holidays in the City

Holidays in the City celebrates 25 years with six weeks of magical festivities, saluting the holidays of Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa and New Year's Eve. The festivities begin on Saturday, November 21st at 7:00 pm with Grand Illumination of the downtown skyline. The lighting of the skyline signals the start of Hampton Roads' most cherished event, the 25th Annual Grand Illumination Parade. The theme for this year's Grand Illumination Parade is "It's Silver", in celebration of our 25th Anniversary. Festive floats, marching bands, giant balloons, and Santa himself will delight spectators as they parade through Downtown Norfolk.

Lost your cat or dog?

Lost and stray dogs and cats picked up by Norfolk Animal Control are held at the Norfolk Animal Care Center. Dogs or cats with a collar are held for owner pickup for 10 days; those without a collar are held for 5 days.

The Animal Care Center is located at 5585 Sabre Road.

From Military Highway turn west onto Lowery Rd (towards the Holiday Inn Express and Candlewood Inn).

From Virginia Beach Blvd turn onto Raby Rd at the Salvation Army building. Lowery and Raby Roads both lead to Sabre Road.

The Norfolk Neighborhood University

Norfolk Neighborhood University fall course schedule is now available online and registration for courses is underway. Fall courses include several informational sessions to improve the condition of neighborhood housing, the vitality of neighborhood organizations, and the overall quality of community life.

For information: <http://www.norfolk.gov/neighborhoods/NU.asp> or call 757-823-4363.

Letters From Our Neighbors

With Change in Seasons, Heighten Vigilance



Most folks appreciate the change of seasons. Fall is especially welcome with cooler temperatures. There are a few more holidays and a number of social gatherings, and football seems the center of attention for many.

But the move from Daylight Savings transitions us to shorter days and the increased hours of darkness bring added challenges: more opportunity for crime, increased night driving, less visible pedestrian traffic, and fewer daylight hours for social interaction with our neighbors.

As we enter the fall season, we must accept that neighborhood safety requires more vigilance.

Some recommendations as we enter the cooler months:

- 1) **Be ready for the unexpected.** Take a deep breath when you feel rushed. People seem more hurried and less attentive in the fall. Plan ahead and leave earlier.
- 2) **Drive responsibly.** Slow down and pay attention, especially in the neighborhood. It is darker and reaction times are impacted by reduced visibility.
- 3) **Leave your porch and yard lights on** (employ motion sensor lights as required).
- 4) **Lock your doors** and do not leave valuables in vehicles.
- 5) **Greet everyone you see.** Saying hello encourages your neighbors and alerts strangers that they have been noticed. Number one deterrent to crime - the fear of getting caught.

Suburban Acres crime statistics took an unexpected turn upward last month. Being vigilant is an individual effort, but when everyone is vigilant the crime statistics will no doubt be impacted. See you at the next gathering.

Steve Collins

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Neighborhood Watch

By Rob Lain, Coordinator

Worried about crime in Suburban Acres? If so, you're not alone. You're like many others living here who want to keep our lovely neighborhood's quality of life safe from thieves, vandals, and assailants. And you can join them in taking action by becoming a part of our Neighborhood Watch.

A Neighborhood Watch works with local law enforcement and our residents in several ways to combat crime:

1. Raising awareness, both regarding criminal activity and prevention measures we can take
2. Assisting our neighbors who are victims of crime
3. Creating phone trees and contact networks to spread the word on suspects
4. Improving conditions to clean up neglected property in our area
5. Establishing citizen patrols to discourage crime in problem spots

By doing our part, we help the police in their work and enable the Civic League to make a stronger case when more resources are required from city government.

As the new Suburban Acres Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, I aim to revitalize our program so we can both improve responses when crimes occur and prevent them in the future. Your participation is critical to our success.

Over the next month, I'll be contacting many of you who have worked with the Watch in the past, and asking for help from those of you who haven't yet done so, to build on our existing program. You'll also see articles like this one every month, providing relevant information, crime data (such as the summary below of incidents in Suburban Acres reported to the Norfolk Police from June to now), and prevention tips. If you'd like to be a part of the Neighborhood Watch, please call me at 469-3685. I look forward to working with you.



SACL 2nd Annual Harvest Celebration

Witches, goblins, and ghosts, Oh my!

(And the tooth fairy, juggler and Cruella de Vil!)



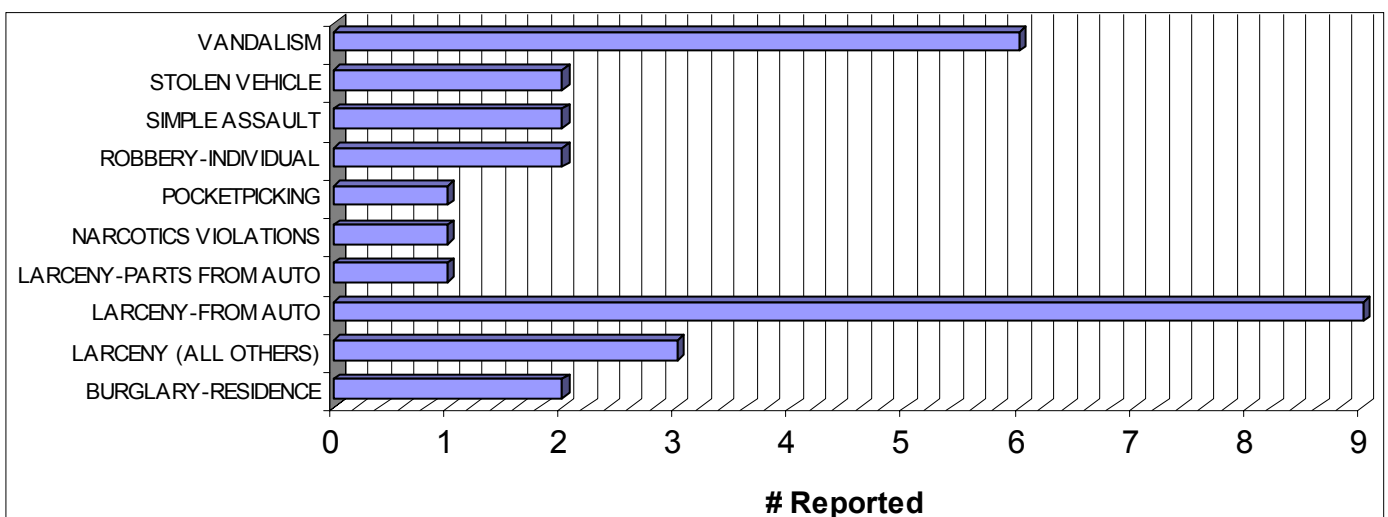
The Harvest Party was a great success thanks to this cast of characters...er, participants.

On Saturday, October 24th, SACL held its 2nd Annual Harvest Celebration at the Better Business Bureau Community Media-Center on Virginian Drive. Activities included a Chili Cook-off, costume contest, children's crafts courtesy of Andrea Fox and entertainment from juggler extraordinaire Tim Nolan and Phyllis the Tooth Fairy.

Delicious refreshments including home baked cookies, cupcakes, corn bread, and five delicious chili contributions were

(Continued on page 7)

Suburban Acres Crime Activity 06/09/2009 to 10/23/2009





The eyes have it at the SACL Harvest Celebration. Photos Tim Fox

(Continued from page 6)

provided by Deanna Adams, Eric Heard, Susan Boice, Jodee Cook and Audrey Renn. The decorations were spooktacular thanks to Eric Heard and Elyse Kalfus. Many thanks to everyone who participated in setup and cleanup, and to the Better Business Bureau for their excellent accommodations.

A good time was had by all and we look forward to next year's event!

November Word Search

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

Berkeley

Feast

Scorpio

Black Friday

Mayflower

Thanksgiving

Chrysanthemum

Native

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Citrine

November

Woodleaf

Eleven

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Norfolk Cares 664-6510

**Neighborhood Watch
Coordinator**
Rob Lain
469-3685

Visit our website at
www.suburban23505.com

Announcements

Send your announcement to
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***Our thoughts and endless
gratitude at this time of
Thanksgiving are with our
men and women in uniform
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Welcome to our new Granby
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Suburban Acres Civic League Membership Form 2009

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☐ Family \$10.00

Name

(Please print. For Family Membership, list head of household and all eligible voting members)

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