

**Suburban Acres  
Civic League**

**DEC 1, 2010  
Volume 7, Issue 12**

**DECEMBER MEETING**

**Monday Dec. 13**

**Doors open at 6 pm**

**Meeting at 6:30 pm**

**Suburban Park  
Elementary School**

**Program:**

***Holiday Get-Together  
Extra-Special Holiday  
Refreshments  
and***

**Annual Presentation, Slide  
Show of the League's  
Activities and Adventures  
in 2010**

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# THE SUBURBAN

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## Message from the President

**W**alking home from the November meeting, I realized a change in my perspective of this neighborhood having just listened to the stories told by a few of what I'll call the "ROSA" Club (Roots of Suburban Acres).

For the nearly 40 meeting attendees, it was an entertaining and historically informative treat to hear about our transformation from farmland to suburbia — really putting into perspective this ground beneath our homes and the large oaks. With personal recollections predating city water and sewage, sidewalks, and roads carving through the landscape to make up our current residential grid, our ROSA Club proudly shared insight into the development of this community and of Norfolk growing into a modern city.

From it all, I took away a better appreciation for this rich neighborhood, knowing a little more about the challenges, successes, and interesting facts on how 'all of this came to be' through more than half a century of vision and tenacity. As a resident of SA, I feel a deeper sense of responsibility to build on the solid foundation laid by these and other Plank Holders of Suburban Acres.

On behalf of the eight elected members of the 2011 Executive Committee, I thank you for your confidence in our leadership of the Suburban Acres Civic League. It's an honor to have the trust from those who made us the community we are today, and the support from those who will help it become what it is tomorrow.

This season presents opportunities (individual and community) to help shine light on the lives of others. Thankfully, the SACL was again able to provide support to many families in Suburban Park Elementary, contributing to their wonderful Thanksgiving food basket program. We learned during the November meeting that we can make an impact on our community by assisting the Foodbank of Southeastern VA Backpack Program and the Uniform Support Program benefitting Suburban Park Elementary families.

Misfortune has a way of finding most of us. We

become ill or injured, lose things and people dear to us, experience stress and difficult times. We do, however, have a choice to celebrate the opposite side of all of that as it applies. If we are wise, we acknowledge the



**SACL President Tim Fox presents Claudette Dalmida, Suburban Park Elementary's parent liaison, with a check for \$500 for the school's holiday food basket program. SACL makes a holiday donation of money and nonperishable food items to the school annually.**

positives before us everyday, and we realize that we have something to celebrate indeed. Let it not only be for the day or the holiday season, but any day we pause to embrace the good fortunes we find here at home.

In the words of one of our dear ROSA Club members, "We are truly blessed here...this is a blessed place to live."

I hope you feel the same, all throughout the year.

Be well, neighbors.

*Timothy M. Fox*





## Suburban Acres Civic League Officers

**Tim Fox, President**

338-0439

[sacpresident@gmail.com](mailto:sacpresident@gmail.com)

**JoDee Cook, Vice President**

587-7918

**Eric Heard, Secretary**

963-6996

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## Board of Directors

**Jeb Clarke** 626-0076

**Steve Collins** 416-6158

**Robert Lain** 469-3685

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587-1221

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823-4433 390-0417

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823-4448

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## Police (Non Emergency)

441-5610

## Code Enforcement

664-6532

## Norfolk Cares

664-6510

## Neighborhood Watch

**Coordinator**

**Rob Lain**

469-3685

## EARNN (Environmental Awards for Recycling in Norfolk Neighborhoods) Coordinator

**Katrina Butler**

[dixiekat@mac.com](mailto:dixiekat@mac.com)

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**Visit our website at**

[www.suburban23505.com](http://www.suburban23505.com)

# Suburban Acres Civic League

## Meeting Minutes for November 8, 2010

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. at Suburban Park School. Attendance – 34 (quorum present)

## Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome provided by President Tim Fox. In honor of Veteran's Day this week, Tim invited all veterans in attendance to stand, and provided a special thank you.

**Minutes**—October 2010 civic league meeting minutes were approved without exception.

**Special Presentation**—The President invited Mrs. Claudette Dalmida, the Suburban Park Elementary community liaison to the dais for the annual presentation by the civic league. President Fox presented the school with a \$500 check and non-perishable food items collected by the civic league for the school's holiday food basket drive. Mrs. Dalmida was gracious in her thanks to the civic league's support of the school, and reminded attendees of the school's angel tree (contains the clothing sizes and holiday wishes of needy children) and the school's clothes closet program. Claudia Cary and Karen Mayne are the civic league's coordinators of clothes closet donations, and added specifics of items needed for the school's emergency clothes closet.

## Committee Reports

**Communications** – Kevin Janney

The newsletter has 14 quarter page ads this month; Charlie Wasserman continues to provide outstanding support to the civic league by handling ad sales for The Suburban. The newsletter continues to pay for itself. Please patronize our advertisers when you can.

**Meetings and Events** – JoDee Cook

Next month's meeting will include the annual audio visual presentation of the league's activities throughout the year, and festive refreshments.

JoDee thanked Jenny Henson for tonight's refreshments. The league needs assistance coordinating refreshments each month; those interested in coordinating for a meeting should call JoDee at 587-7918.

**Membership** – Steve Collins, not in attendance.

**Treasurer's Report** – Lester Cavanaro

October Income	\$ 371.00	October Expenses	\$ 345.41
Checking Balance	\$ 2,037.50	Petty Cash Balance	\$ 50.00
Decal Fund Balance	\$ 292.00	Mermaid Fund Balance	\$ 98.00

**EARNN** (Environmental Awards for Recycling in Norfolk Neighborhoods) – JoDee reported for Katrina Butler that the league has earned some EARNN points since the city's new fiscal year began, and the points status will be tracked in the newsletter.

## Old Business

Annual Election – Beth Clarke and Claudia Cary (nominating committee)

Beth and Claudia reminded attendees of voting rules: only dues-paying members can vote, and a maximum of two votes per family. The committee's slate of proposed officers were presented, and no nominations were received from the floor. Nominations were closed, and the committee's recommended slate was approved in its entirety unanimously by those in attendance.

## Officers and Board Members for 2011:

President:	Timothy Fox	Board of Directors:	Jeb Clarke
Vice President:	JoDee Cook	Board of Directors:	Ray Henson
Secretary:	Dee Adams	Board of Directors:	Kevin Janney
Treasurer:	Deidra Rayder	Board of Directors:	Angeleck Nance

Rob Lane was absent, but there was discussion about recent criminal activity in the neighborhood, including teenagers breaking into backyard sheds at night.

**Guest Speaker**— Marcus Calabre, Chair, Child Nutrition Council, Food Bank of Southeastern Virginia. (See related newsletter article page 4).

## For the good of the order / Announcements—

Next meeting is December 13<sup>th</sup>.

The regular meeting was adjourned, and a "plank owner's" discussion was held by long-time neighborhood residents Bud Raber, Marvin Cheek, Clyde Odom, and Dan Bigelli (see article page 3).

Respectfully submitted,  
Kevin Janney

*Note: Secretary Eric Heard was not in attendance this month due to illness. Please keep Eric in your thoughts and prayers.*



## Civic League and Community News

www.suburban23505.com

### Pillars of Suburban Acres describe early days of neighborhood at November 8th meeting

By Kevin Janney

A real estate article from the September 24, 1978 Virginian Pilot-Ledger Star summarized recent property sales, saying that "smaller" homes in Suburban Acres could be had for \$40,000 and "larger ones can run up to \$75,000."

whole civic league could have sat around this table. I moved in here around 1960, and anyway I brought my children here, three, they all went to school here and at Granby, and naturally they could walk to school and that was wonderful, there

overpass over a railroad so they dug the whole thing out to about 12 feet deep, so it was just a big mud flat. Then after that (chuckle), they filled it in with stumps. Somebody downtown or something was cutting trees so they filled the whole thing back up with stumps, big brown stumps. So then they pulled all those out and the second underpass down Tidewater Drive they used that dirt to fill it back in again, then they built the school.

Suburban Acres was a large farm as most of you know, and there was a burial plot but I'm not going to mention where it was but at the time they had burial plots in back of the farmhouse here. And back in the 1950s and late 40s sliced bread was just coming in, you had to slice your own bread, and plywood didn't exist. So when you built your house, you built it out of wood! Regular planks. And there wasn't any air handlers. So my father and I we built our own house, it took a year but



From left are Bud Raber, Marvin Cheek, Clyde Odom (standing), and Dan Bigelli describing early days of Suburban Acres at the Nov. 8 SACL meeting

Our neighborhood was part of Norfolk's post-World War II building boom, primarily due to its proximity to bustling Wards Corner. Nansemond County (now the City of Suffolk) grocer J. C. Council closed his grocery store and moved to Norfolk to establish the J.C. Council real estate brokerage in 1919. He subsequently bought undeveloped farm land southeast of Wards Corner and subdivided it into lots with sales beginning in 1948. Some early lots sold for as little as \$300.

At the November 8, 2010 Suburban Acres Civic League meeting, "plankowners," some of the first to build here, were invited to share their memories of Suburban Acres in its early days. August "Bud" Raber, Clyde Odom, Marvin Cheek, and Daniel "Dan" Bigelli kept the crowd entertained with their obviously fond recollections for close to an hour. These gentlemen say it best, so their comments are provided here in their words.

#### Marvin Cheek

We had a heck of a time keeping a civic league going 30 and 40 years ago. The

aren't many neighborhoods like that. That was one thing that stood out for me...it was great for children, still is great for children. It's way up here on schooling. This group, these young fellows here, are fun as heck, just get to know them, you'll like them. Thank you a lot.

#### Bud Raber

In the latter part of the 1940s and 50s you could have bought a lot out here for \$400 to \$500, quite a change from today. The original lots had no water, no sewerage, no lights, no roads, and grass was about this high. We had pheasants, we had quail, we had possums, raccoons, muskrats, duck—no geese, and lots of birds. And Thole Street back in the late 40s was used for a landing field for small planes. It was a dirt road, and it ended up at the railroad tracks, in other words you can't go further than that so you had to go to your right up a gravel overpass and down, there wasn't any signals, no safety devices or nothing.

The school area was a dump, really. But they needed dirt for an automobile



Construction of an updated Bells Bridge in 1947 on Cottage Toll Road (now Tidewater Drive) as it crosses Wayne Creek, a tributary of the Lafayette River. Photo courtesy the Norfolk Public Library Sargeant Memorial Room's digital library.

finally built it. It cost \$7000. You can't build one with that anymore (chuckle).

Back in the early 40s I took papers from Lakewood all the way to Little Creek Road. Where Hardees is now used to be a gambling house, and where Southern Shopping is there used to be houses of ill repute (laughter)...hanky panky. Anyway back in those days Wards Corner had Teds Barbecue on one side, double tracks of street cars like going to Ocean View, and on the other side they had

Continued...see "Plank Owners" Page 8

## Civic League and Community News

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

### Norfolk CrimeView statistics Suburban Acres, November 1-29, 2010

#	Case #	Description	Date	Time	Location
1	1011081903 728012	AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	20101108	1300	7500 BLOCK GRANBY ST
2	1011131943 728711	BURGLARY-NONRESIDENCE	20101106	0900	7200 BLOCK GALVESTON BLVD
3	1011121963 728646	BURGLARY-RESIDENCE	20101112	2003	7400 BLOCK WEST KENMORE DR
4	1011104536 728184	LARCENY-FROM AUTO	20101109	2100	7400 BLOCK WEST KENMORE DR
5	1011024560 727291	LARCENY-FROM AUTO	20101102	1855	7200 BLOCK GRANBY ST
6	1011170749 729075	LARCENY (ALL OTHERS)	20101116	1430	7400 BLOCK GRANBY ST
7	1011084455 727975	LARCENY-FROM BUILDING	20101106	2000	7300 BLOCK WEST KENMORE DR
8	1011051852 727977	LARCENY-FROM BUILDING	20101104	1000	100 BLOCK SUBURBAN PKWY
9	1011081903 728014	NARCOTICS VIOLATIONS (FELONY)	20101108	1300	7500 BLOCK GRANBY ST
10	1011082020 727923	STOLEN VEHICLE	20101107	1800	100 BLOCK SUBURBAN PKWY
11	1011142151 728640	STOLEN VEHICLE	20101114	1700	7300 BLOCK GRANBY ST
12	1011230749 729675	STOLEN VEHICLE	20101123	1025	7500 BLOCK GRANBY ST
13	1011032020 727453	VANDALISM	20101101	1800	300 BLOCK VIRGINIAN DR

### Crimeview stats up slightly for November; holiday crime prevention important to deter thieves

N.P.D. Neighborhood PACE Officer Odell Davis reports that the increase in larcenies in November is largely attributable to a rash of thefts around Norfolk Collegiate School. He also reports that arrests have already been made for the narcotics violation, assault, and an individual robbery (mugging) that occurred in late October (not reflected in the above statistics).

Police say many of our own activities increase our potential for victimization. Criminals are aware that people carry more cash on their persons and make more purchases during the holidays. Thieves often pose as delivery personnel, couriers, or other seemingly legitimate persons. Many walk through neighborhoods to see if they get stopped or questioned or to 'test' the security measures and have false 'prepared' explanations. Don't be afraid to question people with whom you are unfamiliar; call police to report suspicious activity or persons.

The following crime prevention tips for the holiday season were provided by Officer Davis:

- Do not leave gifts or valuables unattended. If you must leave packages or valuables in your vehicle make sure they are hidden from view, preferably locked in trunk.
- Keep a ledger of property serial numbers to aid police in the event property does turn up missing or stolen.

N.P.D. crime prevention information flyers are available on the SACL web site at [www.suburban23505.com](http://www.suburban23505.com).

- The Suburban

### Food Bank serving unprecedented needs; support requested for Suburban Park programs

Marcus Calabrese, Child Nutrition Advisor for the Food Bank of Southeastern Virginia addressed the Suburban Acres Civic League at its November 8th meeting.

The Food Bank has 14 elementary schools on its waiting list for the Backpack Program, which discretely sends non-perishable foods home with needy children on every other Friday through the school year. The Backpack Program is based on school staff referrals, and currently serves 90 students at Suburban Park, one of only three schools in Norfolk helped by the program due to funding limitations. It costs \$5 to \$7 per backpack.

The Kid's Café program provides nourishing meals for needy children after school.

The Food Bank also has a capital campaign underway to repair and replace its deteriorating warehouse, which is in need of roof repair, and its heavily used delivery trucks.

The Food Bank is serving more people in the current economy. It is estimated that one in four Norfolk residents is assisted somehow by the Food Bank. Cash donations are specifically needed for the capital program, and to purchase items for the Backpack Program due to U.S. Department of Agriculture requirements for very specific food items. Food donations can be also taken to 800 Tidewater Drive, or Mr. Callabrese will be happy to pick up donations. More information on the Food Bank can be found at [www.foodbankonline.org](http://www.foodbankonline.org).

-The Suburban

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## Civic League and Community News

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### Thrift store eyes possible Wards Corner location

Thaler McCormick, CEO of local charity ForKids, presented her organization's Wards Corner-based Thrift Store proposal on Saturday at the monthly Wards Corner Now meeting.

The store, which is slated to occupy space in the shopping center at the southeast corner of Wards Corner (commonly referred to as the Perry Property), would include 7500 square feet of retail space and 3500 square feet of warehouse space in the former Sports Zone location. That space has been vacant for 18 months according to the landlord, Chris Perry, who also attended the Saturday meeting.

Major concerns with the proposal included a thrift store not being the direction that the business district needs to move in and the appearance of donations being left in front of the store.

Ms. McCormick indicated that she understood that the eventual plan is to redevelop the shopping center and a clause will be included in her lease that will require her to move out upon six months notice.

Mayor Fraim, who was also present at the meeting, offered support for Ms. McCormick and her organization but indicated he understood why some people have concerns. The Mayor suggested that Ms. McCormick meet with the civic leagues individually before any decisions by Council are made.

For authorization to open a thrift store a special exception to the zoning must be approved by City Council. Another concern was that the zoning change would allow other thrift stores to open up in the same shopping center or that ForKids could sell the store to a different operator. Mayor Fraim indicated he would have the city attorney research whether the special exception can be tied to the particular owner.

The charity plans to operate the thrift store itself, with hours of operation expected to be 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. on Sundays. The charity expects to use two full-time staff members, five part-time employees, and volunteers to run the store. Investors include Hampton Roads Community Foundation, The Parsons Foundation, and Suburban Asset Management.

-WardsCornerNow.com

### Suburban Park Elementary Student Uniform Clothing Drive

The civic league will hold a clothing drive for the school at the December meeting. The school converted to uniforms this year, and maintains a clothes closet for students who cannot afford to

purchase the required clothing and for the younger children who have "accidents."

The school uniform is khaki colored pants, skirts, and jumpers; royal blue polo shirts; and navy button down and turtleneck sweaters. The uniform closet needs these clothing items in all children's sizes. (No "cargo" type pants, please.) These can be purchased at stores like Wal-Mart, America's Kids (The Gallery at Military Circle), or the website [www.FrenchToast.com](http://www.FrenchToast.com).

Also needed is smaller boys and girls underwear in sizes 4 – 8 for the Pre-K and kindergarten children. The underwear should be new in the packaging (unwashed). There is also a need for khaki bottoms (pants or skirts) in these same sizes for the "accidents."

To contribute any of these items or make a monetary donation, please bring them to the December Civic League meeting. Claudia Cary (583-8165 or [cdcary@cox.net](mailto:cdcary@cox.net)) and Karen Mayne (587-1287 or [KarenLMayne@aol.com](mailto:KarenLMayne@aol.com)) will be glad to pick up your donations if you cannot attend the December meeting.

-Karen Mayne

### Keep the Lights On

Norfolk's Department of Public Works is requesting that citizens report malfunctioning streetlights. Please call Dominion Virginia Power at 1-888-667-3000 (press option #1) with the 9-digit pole number, nearest street address, and description of the problem, such as light out, broken lens or exposed wires. Once reported, streetlight outages are typically repaired within 15 working days.

-Norfolk Division of Communications

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## Letters From Our Neighbors



### Get Ready for Holidays!

By Steve Collins

Hmm... December! What does that mean to us? For many it means holiday gatherings and celebration with friends and family. For others it means the year will soon conclude and we must assess our life's rhythms to set expectations to start the New Year. Both celebrating and assessing are complimentary and appropriate. It is important to look at potential opportunities to evaluate and adjust course, but it is also important to celebrate our victories. Here are a few that may need a celebration as well as a quick reality check.

**Health.** Are we taking care of ourselves mentally and physically? Have we considered our priorities? ... trying to do too much? ... any quality quiet time? ... getting enough sleep or exercise? ... eating right? This is not about more "me" time, but about being responsible with a precious finite physical resource. We can get mentally and spiritually as well as physically exhausted. Maybe we need a little balance.

**Relationships.** How are our family and friends doing? Are they taking care of themselves? Are they involved in some unhealthy behavior or relationship? Are they stressed out? Have they had a recent victory or a significant disappointment in their life? Sometimes friends and family need a little quality time, a listening ear, a kind word, or a hug. We need to assess our relationships, but we also need to celebrate and make investment. Have we considered slowing down, turning the television off and spending a little quality time with them? It may be just what "we" need.

**Stewardship.** How do we handle our resources? What do we invest in? Finances? ... saved any money this year? How about time management? Have we budgeted time for loved ones? ... have some great memories to ponder? Do we value and maintain our property? Do we invest in people or "stuff"? Does our stewardship need some celebration and assessment? Absolutely! Good stewardship is a mindset; proactive, delayed gratification, thinking of others before ourselves.

December is a busy time, but we may need to assess our life's rhythms as well as celebrate our victories – An activity well worth the time. Merry *Christmas*! See you at the next meeting!

Steve

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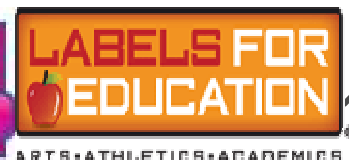
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- Turn in empty ink cartridges from your printer



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## SUBURBAN ACRES GREEN

By Karen Mayne

What's in a name? The Suburban Acres, Suburban Park, and Chelsea subdivisions, which comprise our civic league, were some of Norfolk's first suburban neighborhoods as the City expanded during and after World War II. The names "acres" and "park" in these names attest to the developers' marketing of large lots in a lovely suburban setting. Trees were planted on lots that had been farmland, and now, over fifty years later, our civic league is blessed with some of the largest trees and prettiest yards in the City.

However, many of these trees are being removed by property owners. Tree removal is done for a variety of reasons, but it seems many people became scared of their trees after Hurricane Isabel blew over so many in 2003. While it is true that many trees came down during that hurricane, the majority were street trees that had poor root structure due to the surrounding asphalt and concrete, and had never been pruned properly. Most healthy trees can stand up to high winds, and in fact serve as an effective wind screen to deflect winds up and over houses.

Urban trees provide many benefits in addition to being good wind screens. Trees are the "green lungs" of our city, helping to clean the air. Trees and shrubs reduce heating and cooling



requirements by shading homes in the summer and deflecting cold winds in winter – cutting energy costs by up to 50 percent. Trees also reduce storm water runoff and flooding by absorbing up to 30 percent of rain through their leaves

and another 30 percent through their root systems. Landscaping, particularly with trees, can increase property values by 20 percent. Trees provide all these public services for free, while also providing homes and food for birds and other wildlife. In short, our neighborhoods are better because of the trees!

Every now and then, a tree can become a "problem." But unless a tree is unhealthy, removing it should be the last option. A qualified tree arborist can provide recommendations on pruning and other actions to keep a tree healthy. Topping – cutting out the top – should never be done as this actually harms a tree. Some folks remove trees because herons have taken up nesting. Usually, removing just the limbs with the nests (after nesting season is over) is sufficient to get the herons to move elsewhere next year. If raking leaves is your problem, then creating a bed of azaleas or other shrubs and flowers around the trees is a good place for the leaves to fall and will also reduce lawn mowing.

When all options fail and it is necessary to remove a tree, think about replacing it elsewhere on your property or in our city. The City of Norfolk initiated the Celebrate Trees project to increase tree coverage in the city from 33 to 40 percent.

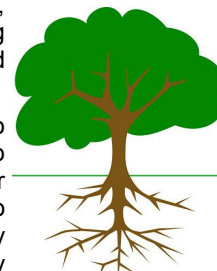
*Continued...See "Green" on Page 9*

## Norfolk's Celebrate Trees Project

**Celebrate Trees** is an environmental and community partnership initiative of Mayor Paul D. Fraim that gives residents and businesses a reason to celebrate and grow Norfolk's tree canopy. The program was inspired by a tree-planting program in Norfolk's sister city, Kitakyushu, Japan.

Trees provide many benefits, including improving water quality, conserving energy, lowering city temperatures, reducing air pollution, enhancing property values, providing wildlife habitats, facilitating social and educational opportunities, and beautifying the city.

In the coming years, Norfolk's goal is to increase the tree canopy from 33% to 40%, the recommended percentage for cities east of the Mississippi River. To read more about Norfolk's tree canopy statistics or to find out how tree canopy is measured, go to [http://www.cnr.vt.edu/gep/VA\\_UTC.html](http://www.cnr.vt.edu/gep/VA_UTC.html).



Get involved with Celebrate Trees by:

1. Make a donation to the Living Legacy Grove fund, which will be used to plant trees in a designated public park or open space area.  
([www.celebratetrees.norfolk.gov/content\\_legacy](http://www.celebratetrees.norfolk.gov/content_legacy))
2. Celebrate a meaningful event by planting a tree on your own property.
3. Contact the City of Norfolk to request a "street tree" on the City-owned median or curb area in front of your home or business.

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\* offer expires Nov. 30, 2011

### Plank owners (continued from Page 3)

some meat houses and a gas station, and that was it. And when I was taking papers out past Little Creek Road all the way down just a little bit further somewhere in that month a dive plane crashed and went into the ground about 14 or 15 feet, and they couldn't find anybody so they filled that hole with concrete. Spooky.

Second half...(laughter).

The Lafayette River at that time was low and you could put a boat in at the back of your house at low tide, and it was dredged. Now they got all these regulations you can't do anything with the mud, if you do you have to take the mud that you dredge out and take it to another place on another barge and pay for the transportation and deposit it someplace. Back of my house we had whole bands of mussels, you could go in there and pick all the mussels you want. They're all gone now.

Oh, if you look, you know the folks that make cakes on Tidewater Drive, that used to be a slave quarters, houses there, three or four houses there for slave quarters (referring to Wine and Cake Hobbies, 6527 Tidewater Drive). And across the street there's a farm house that regulated the slaves in that area. Before Tidewater Drive got this new name it was Cottage Toll Road. The toll was on people who went over the bridge, the second water on Tidewater Drive was a bridge, a wooden bridge, and the building on your left collected your toll when you went over that bridge. Consequently, Cottage Toll Road. (In response to questions from the audience, 'second water' was described as the crossing over Wayne Creek). That's it!

**Daniel Bigelli**

Well everything that Bud said is true, for the simple reason I'm his neighbor! I built my house in 1950, and he did say about the

lots selling for \$400 each, except I didn't have \$400 to buy a lot so it took me two years, and I paid \$1900 for the lot. So I borrowed enough money to build my house, lot and all for \$9500. Right today I'm paying taxes on that same piece of land, the land alone is valued at \$120,000. The house and all, I added on to it twice, that \$9500 house became \$450,000 worth of house. That's what I'm paying taxes on. So you want to know what Suburban Acres is like I'll tell you. When I first built there and he mentioned it, there was no city water. They put city water on Thole Street, and each of all the circles had well water and all you had to do was drive a hole down in the ground, eighteen feet and you got water to drink. Well my wife didn't like the water, she hated it. So the next best thing to do is how am I going to get city water? So I ran 300 feet of pipe up to Thole Street and hooked a meter up there. So for twenty years I paid six dollars and a quarter for a water bill...and I didn't say a word, I just paid my water bill (laughter). So twenty years later they're out there in the street digging up my street, so I went out there and said "what are you guys doing?" They said, "We're changing your water meter...we can't find your water meter." The grass would grow over it at Thole Street so they couldn't find my water meter. I didn't say a word I just paid my six-and-a-quarter.

**To be continued...**

*Editor's Note: Bud, Marvin, Clyde, and Dan's comments were recorded and are being transcribed. The second half of their discussion will be presented in the January 2011 edition of The Suburban. Special thanks to W. Troy Valos and the rest of the helpful staff at the Norfolk Public Library's Sargeant Memorial Room for assistance in researching background material for this article. As a side note, the Sargeant Memorial Room staff was very interested in the oral history we have collected, and have asked for our completed transcription to be included as a permanent part of their collection.*

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### November 2010 Yard of the Month

Jerry and Jill Stilwell of 536 Suburban Parkway have received the good graces of Flora, the SACL Yard of the Month Mermaid. Congratulations Stilwells on being named the November 2010 SACL Yard of the Month !

*Photo by Jeb Clark*

### Green continued from Page 7

To reach that goal, we will need more trees planted on both public and private property. Prime tree planting time in our area is mid October to the end of March when the weather is cooler. The website [www.CelebrateTrees.norfolk.gov](http://www.CelebrateTrees.norfolk.gov) (or the City's Environmental Programs office at 664-4242) provides information on which trees do well in Norfolk, how to plant them, and links to more information and advice. Through this website, you can also request that the City plant a "public" tree along the street or median where you live.

If you can't replace a tree on your property, or if you are interested in helping increase the number of trees elsewhere in Norfolk, consider donating to the City's Living Legacy Groves (see the above website). This program plants groves of trees in public parks or open space around the city. Donating to the Living Legacy Groves is a wonderful way to honor a special event like the birth of a child or to honor a loved one or pet.

Karen can be reached by e-mail at [KarenLMayne@aol.com](mailto:KarenLMayne@aol.com) or by phone at 587-1287

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## Eggleston Garden Center at Tanners Creek

Christmas  
Trees

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## Holiday News Briefs & Events



### Holidays in the City Events

**Interactive Model Train Exhibit**, Selden Arcade, December 1-18. Wed. - Fri. 11am - 2pm, Saturdays 10am - 5pm. Train display is provided by the Atlantic Coast S-Gaugers. 208 East Main St., 623-1757. Free and open to the public. Presented by Downtown Norfolk Council.

### A Christmas Carol, By Virginia Stage Company

Various show times, Dec. 3-24, Wells Theatre. It wouldn't be the holidays without Dickens' A Christmas Carol at VSC. Ebenezer Scrooge and his travels with the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future reawaken the spirit of Christmas in all of us. 627-1234. Tickets via Ticketmaster or [www.vastage.com](http://www.vastage.com).

**"Gum Drops and Ginger Bread"**, Hunter House Victorian Museum, Saturday, December 11, 11:00 AM, \$10.

Run, run fast as you can, Can't catch me, I'm the Gingerbread man! This is for our youngest friends, along with Mom or Dad. Enjoy a taste of the holiday season with cocoa and gingerbread treats. This program is best suited for youngsters aged to 8. Reservations required, 623-9814, 240 W. Freemason St.

**Photos with Santa** at MacArthur Mall. Through Dec. 24 Have your photo taken with Santa at MacArthur Center. Every child that visits with him will receive a special gift.

**MacArthur on Ice outdoor ice skating rink** in downtown Norfolk. MacArthur Center. Public skating, figure skating exhibitions, lessons, skating with the Norfolk Admirals and more through Jan. 17. 314-4409.

### Christmas Tree Recycling Available in Norfolk

Once decorations are removed Christmas Trees can be placed on the curb with trash on your regular collection day during the weeks of December 28th-January 14th. Trees will be collected by City Waste Management trucks and taken to the yard waste facility to be mulched. Trees may also be dropped off at the two recycling drop-off collection facilities, open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Drop-off sites are located at the corner of 17th St. & Colonial Ave. (Maury High School), and Security Lane off North Military Highway, next to Norfolk Technical Vocational School.

### Deck the Paws Holiday Fur Ball

Dec. 10, 5-9 p.m. Free. Dressy to black-tie. Meet & cuddle with adoptable Norfolk SPCA pets in a decorated Rotunda penthouse, Suite 706, 416 St. Paul's Blvd. Pet-related vendors on hand with gift ideas and information. Bring your own pet for professional glamour photos. Come for fun, visit the animals, and consider adopting by Christmas, or provide financial support to the SPCA by sponsoring a pet while it waits for a home. RSVP by Dec. 6th by calling 622-3220.

## Gardens In A Flowerpot



Customers review  
Gardens in a Flower Pot  
on Superpages.com...

"I lived in Norfolk for years and bought all of my plants here. When I moved to Chesapeake, I still drive out to Gardens In A Flower Pot to by my plants ( passing several nurseries on the way)."

"I've been Gardening and landscaping for 40+ years. This little haven is just that. — I have been coming here for 10 years and never been disappointed."

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## NORFOLK SHERIFF'S OFFICE

**Robert J. McCabe**  
Sheriff / High Constable

**Robert J. McCabe, Sheriff**  
811 E. City Hall Avenue  
Norfolk, VA 23510

Office: (757) 664-4713  
Fax: (757) 441-2531  
E-Mail: [robert.mccabe@norfolk.gov](mailto:robert.mccabe@norfolk.gov)  
Web Site: [www.norfolksheriffsoffice.com](http://www.norfolksheriffsoffice.com)



## Announcements

Send your announcement to [suburbanacres@gmail.com](mailto:suburbanacres@gmail.com)

*If you're not currently receiving email updates from Suburban Acres Civic League, send us a brief email to let us know you'd like to be*

*added to our distribution list! Birthdays? Anniversaries? Lost & found? Let us know!*

**Congratulations** Jerry & Jill Stilwell on the arrival of new civic league member Joseph (Joey) Edward in early November.

The 21-time State Wrestling Champion **Granby High School Wrestling Team** needs your help now to re-build our program and restore the winning glory. We ask for your generous contribution to help us cover the cost of uniform items, singlets, and sweats for each wrestler. Our goal is to raise \$3000.00 by the start of the 2010 wrestling season. Your contribution will make you an honorary member of our Granby Wrestling Booster Club. Tax deductible donations would be especially appreciated before Dec. 20, and can be sent to Granby High School, Attn: Wrestling Team, 7101 Granby St., Norfolk, Virginia 23505. Contact Head Coach David Pucino for more information at 587-0657, (240)215-7519, or [dpucino@nps.k12.va.us](mailto:dpucino@nps.k12.va.us).

**Wards Corner Now and the entire Wards Corner Community** offers its thanks to the Granby High School Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA). On Saturday, November 20, 2010 they collected over 420lbs of trash during a cleanup event in the business district. The GHS Business Students participate in the "Adopt-a-Spot" program.

**Computer classes at Primeplus** Norfolk Senior Center. Preregistration required, 625-5857, [www.primeplus.org](http://www.primeplus.org). "Just Starting With Computers", "Introduction to Computers", and "Using the Internet-Your Connection to the World Wide Web" available various times, costs \$25 to \$55. 7300 Newport Ave. inside Norfolk Fitness & Wellness Center.

## ADVERTISE IN The Suburban

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## DECEMBER WORD SEARCH



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

### Christmas

CMC

Command

Diane

Gonzales

Hark

### Homecoming

Joy

Master Chief

Minnesota

Mistletoe

Navy

### Noel

Peace

Santa

Service

USS

Vikings



*This month's new word search was created by The Suburban's puzzle master to specifically honor and welcome home Diane Ruhl, Command Master Chief of the U.S.S. Gonzales. Chief Ruhl and her crew return from a long deployment this month, and we'll be glad to see them back safely ashore at home!*



**We need your involvement in the Suburban Acres Civic League. The larger our membership, the louder our voice will be heard! Please join today!**

## Suburban Acres Civic League Membership Form 2010

☐ Individual \$5.00

☐ Family \$10.00

Name

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

Street Address

E-mail

Phone

Please make check payable to **Suburban Acres Civic League**. Bring to the next meeting or mail this form to Lester Cavagnaro, Treasurer, Suburban Acres Civic League, 7016 Suburban Arch, Norfolk, VA 23505. **And thank you for your support!**

## Neighborhood Calendar

### Calendar Notes...



**Street Sweeping**  
Friday Dec. 3



**Recycling Pick Up** (Blue Bins)  
Dec. 9 & 23

**DEC 13 Suburban Acres Civic League** Special Holiday Refreshments, social, & annual activities presentation at 6 pm, Suburban Park Elementary

**DEC 9 Mayor's Wards Corner Taskforce** Norfolk Fitness & Wellness Center, 8:30 a.m.

**DEC 9 Norfolk Federation of Civic Leagues** Lake Taylor Hospital Cafeteria, 1309 Kempsville Rd., 7 p.m.

**NOV 20 Wards Corner Now**, Norfolk Fitness & Wellness Center, 8:30 a.m.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Hanukkah	3 	4
5	6	7 Pearl Harbor Day 2:30 pm City Council Mtg.	8	9 8:30 am Wards Corner Taskforce	10	11
12	13 SACL Holiday Meeting 6:00 p.m.	14 7 pm City Council Mtg.	15	16	17	18 8:30 am Wards Corner Now
19	20	21 1st Day of Winter 2:30 pm City Council Mtg.	22	23 	24	25 CHRISTMAS DAY
26 Kwanzaa	27	28 7 pm City Council Mtg.	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	January 1, 2011 New Year's Day

**Note...**NORMAL Trash & Recycling Pickup weeks of Christmas and New Years.

## Suburban HELP

### Community Resources and Contacts

Norfolk Commissioner of the Revenue 664-7860  
Norfolk Treasurer 664-7800  
Animal Control, Lost & Found Animals 441-5505

#### Norfolk Public Works

Accessibility issues, potholes, streetlights in need of repair, curbs and sidewalks  
823-4050

Virginia Office of Consumer Affairs (investigation of consumer complaints)  
1-800-552-9963

Five Points Community Farm Market, 2500 Church Street 640-0300  
Norfolk Public Libraries 664-7328  
Norfolk Neighborhood Design & Resource Center 664-6770  
PRIME PLUS Norfolk Senior Center, 7300 Newport Ave 625-5857

#### E-waste recycling (common household electronics)

Computers, TV's, wiring, printers, small appliances (no smoke detectors or refrigerators)

Free to Norfolk residents at waste management facility:  
1176 Pineridge Road  
MON-SAT 10 am-2 pm  
For complete list of recyclable e-waste items call 441-

**Norfolk Cares...**City services, citizen complaints & concerns  
Mon-Fri. 8 am-6 pm, 664-

#### Norfolk Department of Utilities

**Customer Service**  
664-6700

**Emergency-Water Main Breaks & Sewer Leaks**  
823-1000

**Miss Utility (Call Before You Dig)**  
1-800-552-7001



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